

What tenses do you know?

Present tense

The weather **is** nice.

Present perfect

I **have finished** my homework.

Past tense

Barack Obama **was** the 44th president of the United States.

Past perfect

I **had watched** the news before I went to bed.

Future tense I

I **will** stay home tomorrow.

I **am going to** spend my holidays in Italy.

We **are meeting** tomorrow at 12 a.m..

Future tense II

We **will have eaten** dinner by the time you arrive.

What tenses do you know?

Past tense

Barack Obama **was** the 44th president of the United States.

What tenses do you know?

Past tense

a) is used to describe actions or states that happened and were finished in the past:

We had a barbecue yesterday. (The barbecue is over.)

They went to the beach last week. (They are no longer at the beach.)

b) is used to describe past habits, repeated actions or states or conditions that existed in the past:

When we were in England, we always had tea for breakfast.

He used to play the piano every day after school.

Our first car was a VW.

c) is used in reported speech:

She said: "I like icecream".

*She said that she **liked** icecream.*

He said: "I am watching the football match".

*He said that he **was watching** the football match.*

Note: to describe something that happened during an ongoing process in the past, the **action that started first** is presented in the progressive form, the **later action** uses the **simple form**:

*While we **were having** dinner, it **started** to rain.*

*The phone **rang** when he **was having** a shower.*

2. Halbjahr 2026
English Club am Vormittag B1
261-40656A, Do, 09.00 – 10.30 Uhr

The past tense

Complete with the
correct form of the verb
in the past tense:

Yesterday, I (to eat) pizza for dinner.

Yesterday, I ate pizza for dinner.

When they (to play) chess, a thunderstorm (to come up).

When they were playing chess, a thunderstorm came up.

Put into reported
speech:

She said: "I am interested in music."

She said that she was interested in music.

John said: "I don't have a car."

John said that he didn't have a car.

The tour guide asked: "Are you ready?"

The tour guide asked if we/they were ready.

Translate:

Er hatte einen Unfall, als er nach Hause fuhr.

He had an accident when he was driving home.

Erst ist er gestern in's Kino gegangen,
dann hat er seinen Autoschlüssel verloren

Yesterday, he first went to the movies, then he lost his car key.

Er fragte den Kellner, wo die Toilette sei.

He asked the waiter where the toilet/bathroom/restroom was..