

English Home Language

Grade 8

Tenses

5.1 Verb tenses

Several of the questions require you to know how the different tenses of verbs are formed (for example, those on question tags, active and passive voice, reported speech.) It is a good idea to revise these in your language textbook.

Below is a **verb tense table** for the **regular verb** 'to walk' to help you to revise the different forms that a regular verb may take in the active voice.

'to walk'	Present	Past	Future	Conditional
Simple	I walk. He/she walks.	I walked. He/she walked.	I will walk. He/she will walk.	I would walk He/she would walk.
Continuous	I am walking. He/she is walking. We are walking.	I was walking. He/she was walking. We were walking.	I will be walking. He/she will be walking.	I would be walking. He/she would be walking.
Perfect	I have walked. He/she has walked.	I had walked. He/she had walked.	I will have walked. He/she will have walked.	I would have walked. He/she would have walked.
Perfect and Continuous	I have been walking. He/she has been walking.	I had been walking. He/she had been walking.	I will have been walking. He/she will have been walking.	I would have been walking. He/she would have been walking.

There are also many **irregular verbs**, including commonly used verbs such as 'to be', 'to have', 'to eat', 'to sing', 'to run' and many others which take different forms in the various tenses. You need to become familiar with these by studying them in your language textbook and by noticing them whenever you read.

