TENSES

•PRESENT TENSES

1***. Simple Present*** → always, often, usually, sometimes, every week/month/day etc, never, rarely (**adverbs of frequency** )

VERB + -S (only in the third singular)

Auxiliary verb: DO/DOES

*We use it*

1. *to describe an action that is a routine*
2. *for general truths*
3. *to give directions*

E.g. I go to work every day

Do I go to work every day?

I don’t go to work every day.

2. ***Present Continuous***→ now, at the moment, tonight

BE (am, is, are) + VERB + -ING

Auxiliary verb: Be

*We use it to describe*

1. *an action that is happening as we speak*
2. *a pre-programmed action, concerning the short run (=κοντινό μέλλον)*
3. *to express annoyance*

E.g. I am watching T.V. at the moment.

Am I watching T.V. at the moment?

I am not watching T.V. at the moment.

3. ***Present Perfect Simple***→ just, yet, already, ever, for, since, so far, this week etc

HAS/HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE (of the main verb)

Auxiliary verb: Have

*We use it to describe an action that*

1. *took place in the past and has just finished*
2. *took place in the past and is still going on (e.g. ‘’I have known him for 3 years’’ →I still know him)*
3. *has happened in the past but we don’t know when (e.g. ‘’I have bought a dress’’)*

E.g. I have seen that film.

Have I seen that film?

I haven’t seen that film.

4. ***Present Perfect Continuous***→ for, since, all day, how long, lately etc

HAVE/HAS BEEN + VERB + -ING

Auxiliary verb(s): Have been

*We use it to describe an action that*

1. *began in the past and continues in the present (duration)*
2. *has just finished but is still relevant to the present*

E.g. We have been cleaning the house all morning.

Have we been cleaning the house all morning?

We haven’t been cleaning the house all morning.

NOTE: We use Present Perfect to emphasize the number and Present Perfect Continuous to emphasize the duration.

e.g. I have typed four reports so far.

I have been typing reports all morning.