

The tenses

A brief presentation.

Α Λυκείου

THE PAST

The present

THE FUTURE

Past Perfect S.
(I had played)

Past Simple
(I played)

Present Continuous
(I am playing)

Future Simple
(I will play)

Past Perfect
Continuous
(I had been
playing)

Past Continuous
(I was playing)

Present Simple
(I play)

Future Continuous
(I will be playing)

Present Perfect Simple
(I have played)

Present Perfect Continuous
(I have been playing)

Future Perfect
(I will have
played)

Examples I

- I play football every day.
(Present Simple: habit)
- I am playing football now.
(Present Cont.: action happening now)
- I played football yesterday.
(Past Simple: Completed action)
- I played football when I was young.
(Past Simple: Habit)
- I was playing football yesterday from 17:00-19:00.
(Past Continuous: an action in progress at a specific time in the past)
- I had played football before you came.
(Past Perfect Simple: action that happened before another action in the past)
- I had been playing football for 10 hours before you came.
(Past Perfect Cont.: action in progress that happened before another action in the past)

Examples II (Present Perfect & Past Simple)

- I have played football.
(Present Perfect Simple: happened in the past, we don't know when, we don't care)
- I have just played football.
(Present Perfect Simple: an action that has just happened)
- I have drunk 3 cups of coffee today.
(Present Perfect Simple: an action that has happened lots of times so far, the time period is not over yet.)
- I visited France in 2010. VS I have visited France.
- I drank 3 cups of coffee today. VS I have drunk 3 cups of coffee today.
- I played football yesterday. VS I was playing football yesterday.

Examples III (Past Tenses)

- The dinosaurs had become extinct.

OR

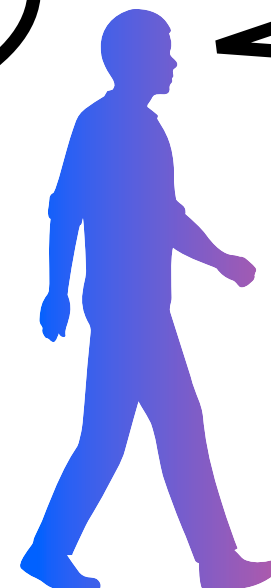
- The dinosaurs became extinct.

OR

- The dinosaurs had become extinct before human beings appeared.



I identify as "human being"



There isn't enough space for both of us.

Examples IV (Future)

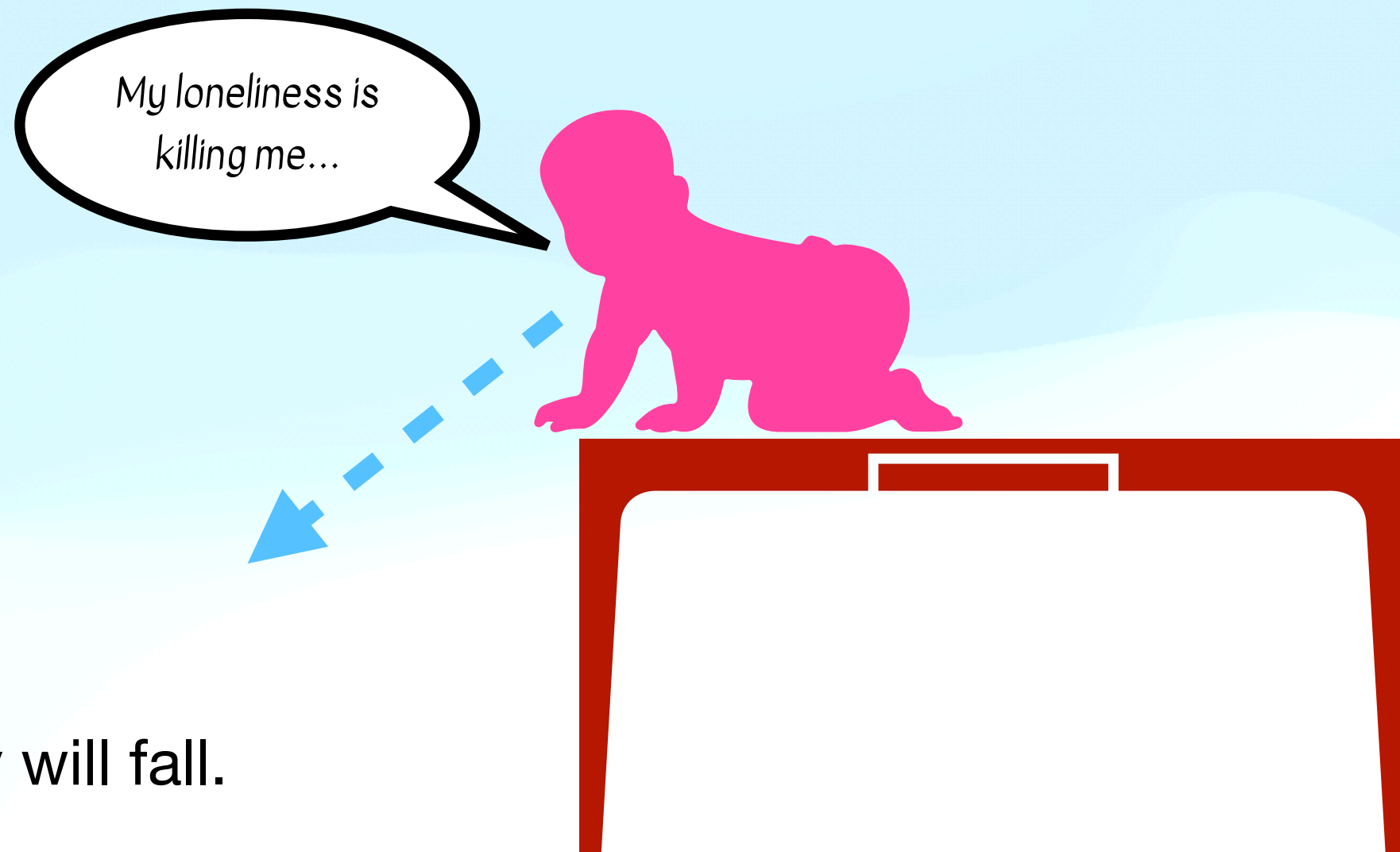
- I will play football tomorrow or later.
(Future Simple: instant decision, uncertain future action)
- I will be playing football tomorrow at 10:00.
(Future Continuous: an action in progress at a specific time in the future)
- I will have played football by the time you arrive.
(Future Perfect Simple: an action that will be completed before another time frame in the future)
- I will have been playing football for ten hours by the time you arrive.
(Future Perfect Continuous: emphasis in the duration... **RARE**)

Examples V (Other Future Uses)

- Present Simple: The train leaves at 17:00. [timetables]
- Present Continuous: We are meeting at 17:00 [100% sure]
- Be going to: It's going to rain tomorrow. [almost sure, based on something that we know]
- Something is due to happen in a few minutes.
- Something is about to happen soon.
- Something is bound to happen (it's planned).

Examples V (Other Future Uses)

- What would you say if you saw a baby crawling on a desk?



- The baby will fall.
- The baby is falling.
- The baby is going to fall.

Examples VI (Other Past Uses)

- I used to play football when I was young (but I don't do it anymore). [past habits]

=> I **would play** football when I was young.

- I used to have a dog (but I don't have one anymore). [past state]

- I **didn't use to do** something in the past, but I do it now.
- **Did you use to do** something in the past?

⚠ ~~I wouldn't do.... Would I do....?~~

| Base form | Past tense | Past participle |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <i>be</i> | <i>was/were</i> | <i>been</i> |
| <i>begin</i> | <i>began</i> | <i>begun</i> |
| <i>break</i> | <i>broke</i> | <i>broken</i> |
| <i>bring</i> | <i>brought</i> | <i>brought</i> |
| <i>buy</i> | <i>bought</i> | <i>bought</i> |
| <i>build</i> | <i>built</i> | <i>built</i> |
| <i>choose</i> | <i>chose</i> | <i>chosen</i> |
| <i>come</i> | <i>came</i> | <i>come</i> |
| <i>cost</i> | <i>cost</i> | <i>cost</i> |
| <i>cut</i> | <i>cut</i> | <i>cut</i> |
| <i>do</i> | <i>did</i> | <i>done</i> |
| <i>draw</i> | <i>drew</i> | <i>drawn</i> |
| <i>drive</i> | <i>drove</i> | <i>driven</i> |
| <i>eat</i> | <i>ate</i> | <i>eaten</i> |
| <i>feel</i> | <i>felt</i> | <i>felt</i> |
| <i>find</i> | <i>found</i> | <i>found</i> |
| <i>get</i> | <i>got</i> | <i>got</i> |
| <i>give</i> | <i>gave</i> | <i>given</i> |
| <i>go</i> | <i>went</i> | <i>gone</i> |
| <i>have</i> | <i>had</i> | <i>had</i> |
| <i>hear</i> | <i>heard</i> | <i>heard</i> |
| <i>hold</i> | <i>held</i> | <i>held</i> |

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| <i>keep</i> | <i>kept</i> | <i>kept</i> |
| <i>know</i> | <i>knew</i> | <i>known</i> |
| <i>leave</i> | <i>left</i> | <i>left</i> |
| <i>lead</i> | <i>led</i> | <i>led</i> |
| <i>let</i> | <i>let</i> | <i>let</i> |
| <i>lie</i> | <i>lay</i> | <i>lain</i> |
| <i>lose</i> | <i>lost</i> | <i>lost</i> |
| <i>make</i> | <i>made</i> | <i>made</i> |
| <i>mean</i> | <i>meant</i> | <i>meant</i> |
| <i>meet</i> | <i>met</i> | <i>met</i> |
| <i>pay</i> | <i>paid</i> | <i>paid</i> |
| <i>put</i> | <i>put</i> | <i>put</i> |
| <i>run</i> | <i>ran</i> | <i>run</i> |
| <i>say</i> | <i>said</i> | <i>said</i> |
| <i>see</i> | <i>saw</i> | <i>seen</i> |
| <i>sell</i> | <i>sold</i> | <i>sold</i> |
| <i>send</i> | <i>sent</i> | <i>sent</i> |
| <i>set</i> | <i>set</i> | <i>set</i> |
| <i>sit</i> | <i>sat</i> | <i>sat</i> |
| <i>speak</i> | <i>spoke</i> | <i>spoken</i> |
| <i>spend</i> | <i>spent</i> | <i>spent</i> |
| <i>stand</i> | <i>stood</i> | <i>stood</i> |

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>take</i> | <i>took</i> | <i>taken</i> |
| <i>teach</i> | <i>taught</i> | <i>taught</i> |
| <i>tell</i> | <i>told</i> | <i>told</i> |
| <i>think</i> | <i>thought</i> | <i>thought</i> |
| <i>understand</i> | <i>understood</i> | <i>understood</i> |
| <i>wear</i> | <i>wore</i> | <i>worn</i> |
| <i>win</i> | <i>won</i> | <i>won</i> |
| <i>write</i> | <i>wrote</i> | <i>written</i> |

More info:

<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/english-grammar-reference/irregular-verbs>

<https://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/irregular-verbs-list.php>

75 common irregular verbs

VocabularyPage.com

| Infinitive | Past Simple | Past Participle | Infinitive | Past Simple | Past Participle | Infinitive | Past Simple | Past Participle |
|------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|
| beat | beat | beaten | fall | fell | fallen | lose | lost | lost |
| become | became | become | feed | fed | fed | make | made | made |
| begin | began | begun | feel | felt | felt | mean | meant | meant |
| bend | bent | bent | fight | fought | fought | meet | met | met |
| bet | bet | bet | find | found | found | pay | paid | paid |
| bite | bit | bitten | fly | flew | flown | put | put | put |
| bleed | bled | bled | forget | forgot | forgotten | read | read | read |
| blow | blew | blown | forgive | forgave | forgiven | rise | rose | risen |
| break | broke | broken | freeze | froze | frozen | run | ran | run |
| breed | bred | bred | get | got | got | say | said | said |
| bring | brought | brought | give | gave | given | see | saw | seen |
| build | built | built | go | went | gone | sell | sold | sold |
| buy | bought | bought | grow | grew | grown | send | sent | sent |
| catch | caught | caught | have | had | had | sit | sat | sat |
| choose | chose | chosen | hear | heard | heard | sleep | slept | slept |
| come | came | come | hide | hid | hidden | speak | spoke | spoken |
| cost | cost | cost | hit | hit | hit | spend | spent | spent |
| cut | cut | cut | hold | held | held | take | took | taken |
| do | did | done | hurt | hurt | hurt | teach | taught | taught |
| dig | dug | dug | keep | kept | kept | tell | told | told |
| draw | drew | drawn | know | knew | known | think | thought | thought |
| dream | dreamt/-ed | dreamt/-ed | lay | laid | laid | understand | understood | understood |
| drink | drank | drunk | lead | led | led | wear | wore | worn |
| drive | drove | driven | leave | left | left | win | won | won |
| eat | ate | eaten | lend | lent | lent | write | wrote | written |