

**Ministry Of Higher Education and Scientific  
Research**

**Al-Mustaqbal University**

**College Medical and Health Techniques**

**What Is a Tense?**

**Second lecture presented by**

**Iltifat Aliwi Mohammed**

## What Is a Tense?

A tense is a form of a verb that allows us to express time.

## What Are the Tenses in English?

English has 12 tenses. They are divided into three groups (present, past and future), and they are each further classified into four different forms, which sum up to twelve tenses in total. The three tenses in English are: (Past, Present, and Future tense)

The four different forms are:

Simple tense, Continuous tense, Perfect tense, Perfect Continuous tense

### 1. The Past Tense

The past tense includes four tenses that help us talk about the past.

#### 1.1 The past simple

The past simple is used to describe past actions and events that are completely finished. We use the past simple to talk about a specific event in the past (we know when the event happened). This means that we use the past simple to talk about an action which started and finished at a specific time in the past. The form of the past simple is the same for all persons. Most verbs in the past simple are “regular“, only some verbs are “irregular. Regular verbs are formed by adding – (ed) to the infinitive e.g. work – worked. Irregular verbs have different affirmative simple past forms and must therefore be learnt e.g. speak – spoke.

The negative of regular and irregular verbs is formed by did not (didn't) + infinitive

The question of regular and irregular verbs is formed by did + subject + infinitive.

I	
you	
he	worked
she	went
it	
we	
you	
they	

I		
you		
he	Did	work
she	Did not	go
it		
we		
you		
they		

	I	
	you	work?
	he	go?
	she	
Did	it	
	we	
	you	
	they	

Most verbs can be changed to the past tense by adding -ed. These are called regular verbs(move - moved / play - played / use – used). However, some verbs are irregular. Their form changes, for examples: buy - bought / eat - ate / see - saw. The past simple is often used with adverbials to tell when something happened. For examples:

I listened to the radio yesterday morning.

They went to the cinema last night.

John did not go shopping on Saturday.

Did they win the match last week?

We swam a lot while we were on holiday

لقد سبحنا كثيرا عندما كنا نخرج في العطلات

I lived abroad for ten years

لقد عشت في الغربة لمدة عشر سنوات

saw a film yesterday

شاهدت فلما بالأمس

We ate lots of cake

نحن أكلنا الكثير من الكعك

Who wrote this song? ؟

من كتب هذه الأغنية

I watched TV last night

أنا شاهدت التلفاز ليلة البارحة

She forgot her keys

هي نسيت مفاتيحه

I went to bed late last night

ذهبت إلى فراشي متأخرا ليلة أمس

### جمل نفى الماضي البسيط

He didn't play video games

هو لم يلعب ألعاب الفيديو

I did not go to Madrid last year

انا لم أذهب إلى مدريد السنة الماضية

they did not play the match yesterday

هم لم يلعبوا المباراة بالأمس

we did not give Mohammed the new key yesterday

لم نعطي محمد المفتاح الجديد بالأمس

she did not do her homework last night

هي لم تقم بواجبها ليلة أمس

he did not read the lesson yesterday

هو لم يقرأ الدرس بالأمس

you did not come last day

أنت لم تأتي اليوم الماضي

When I was in school, I got full marks in English **once**.

عندما كنت في المدرسة ، حصلت على الدرجة النهائية في اللغة الإنجليزية ذات مرة

The train left ten minutes **ago**.

غادر القطار منذ عشر دقائق .

We traveled to Italy **last** summer

سافرنا إلى إيطاليا الصيف الماضي

