

# Verb Tense Tutorial

## Simple Past / Present Perfect / Past Perfect

1. When I (arrive)  home last night, I discovered that Jane (prepare)  a beautiful candle-lit dinner.

2. Since I began acting, I (perform)  in two plays, a television commercial and a TV drama. However, I (speak, never even)  publicly before I came to Hollywood in 1985.

3. By the time I got to the office, the meeting (begin, already)  without me. My boss (be)  furious with me and I (be)  fired.

4. When I (turn)  the radio on yesterday, I (hear)  a song that was popular when I was in high school. I (hear, not)  the song in years, and it (bring)  back some great memories.

5. Last week, I (run)  into an ex-girlfriend of mine. We (see, not)  each other in years, and both of us (change)  a great deal. I (enjoy)  talking to her so much that I (ask)  her out on a date. We are getting together tonight for dinner.

6. When Jack (enter)  the room, I (recognize, not)  him because he (lose)  so much weight and (grow)  a beard. He looked totally different!

7. The Maya established a very advanced civilization in the jungles of the Yucatan; however, their culture (disappear, virtually)  by the time Europeans first (arrive)  in the New World.

8. I (visit)  so many beautiful places since I (come)  to Utah. Before moving here, I (hear, never)  of Bryce Canyon, Zion, Arches or Canyonlands.

### **Simple Past / Past Perfect**

I can't believe I (get)  that apartment. I (submit)  my application last week, but I didn't think I had a chance of actually getting it. When I (show)  up to take a look around, there were at least twenty other people who (arrive)  before me. Most of them (fill, already)  out their applications and were already leaving. The landlord said I could still apply, so I did.

I (try)  to fill out the form, but I couldn't answer half of the questions. They (want)  me to include references, but I didn't want to list my previous landlord because I (have)  some problems with him and I knew he wouldn't recommend me. I (end)  up listing my father as a reference.

It was total luck that he (decide)  to give me the apartment. It turns out that the landlord and my father (go)  to high school together. He decided that I could have the apartment before he (look)  at my credit report. I really lucked out!

### **Past Perfect / Past Perfect Continuous**

I'm sorry I left without you last night, but I told you to meet me early because the show started at 8:00. I (try)  to get tickets for that play for months, and I didn't want to miss it. By the time I finally left the coffee shop where we were supposed to meet, I (have)  five cups of coffee and I (wait)  over an hour. I had to leave because I (arrange)  to meet Kathy in front of the theater.

When I arrived at the theater, Kathy (pick, already)  up the tickets and she was waiting for us near the entrance. She was really angry because she (wait)  for more than half an hour. She said she (give, almost)  up and (go)  into the theater without us.

Kathy told me you (be)  late several times in the past and that she would not make plans with you again in the future. She mentioned that she (miss)  several movies because of your late arrivals. I think you owe her an apology. And in the future, I suggest you be on time! several movies because of your late arrivals. I think you owe her an apology. And in the future, I suggest you be on time!