

English Grammar Terms: Quick reference guide to verb tenses

Simple present

I talk to my friend Jill every week.

Present progressive/ continuous

I am talking to Jill now.

Simple past

I talked to Jill last week

Past progressive/ continuous

I was talking to Jill last week.

Present perfect

I have just talked to Jill.

Present perfect progressive/ continuous

I have been talking to Jill.

Past perfect

I had talked to Jill.

Past perfect progressive/ continuous

I had been talking to Jill.

Future - will

I will talk to Jill.

Future – going to

I am going to talk to Jill.

Future progressive/ continuous

I will be talking to Jill.

Future perfect

I will have talked to Jill by tomorrow.

Conditional simple

I would talk to Jill if she answered my calls.

Conditional progressive/ continuous

I would be talking to Jill now if...

Conditional perfect

I would have talked to Jill but...

Conditional perfect progressive

I would have been talking to Jill but...