

Progression in tense

Aspect	EYFS	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Using tenses	Orally use past, present and future forms		Consistent use of the past and present tense in writing		Use standard verb forms e.g. <i>We were not we was</i> <i>I did not I done</i>	Use of modals verbs: <i>can, might, should, could, would, ought, shall, must</i>	Use of the passive form to show what was done rather than who did it <i>The tea was eaten (by Mr Bean).</i> <i>The bag was torn (by Mr Bean).</i>
Present tense			Use simple present tense for actions happening now <i>I eat my tea.</i> <i>He eats his tea.</i> Use present progressive tense for ongoing actions happening now <i>I am eating my tea.</i> <i>They were eating their tea.</i>				
Past tense			Use simple past tense for actions that have been completed <i>I ate my tea.</i> <i>He ate his tea.</i> Use past progressive tense for ongoing actions in the past <i>I was eating my tea.</i> <i>They were eating their tea.</i>	Use the present perfect to write about events in the past that are relevant now <i>I have eaten my tea.</i> <i>She has seen her before.</i> <i>I have been here before.</i>		Use of the past perfect tense to link back to previous events <i>She had seen her before.</i> Use of present perfect with modals <i>We could have done that earlier.</i> <i>I should have finished.</i>	The present and past perfect tense can be used to write more formally.