

past  
present  
future → **Simple versus Continuous** - past  
- present - future

**Simple**

- Describes an action that is seen to be complete

Includes single, completed actions

Vincent **broke** his ankle.

Fahad **has read** that book. / He read that book.

Includes habits and routines

Gustavo **gets up** at 6.

Includes states

Ely **likes** sushi.

Ronel **looks** tired.

↑  
**doesn't look**

**Continuous** - ing

Describes actions in progress at a specific time:

Leonardo **was cooking** when I phoned.

Talks about an activity that has recently stopped ( present evidence)

It look as though it's **been raining** here.

Emphasizes repetition, duration or the temporary nature of events:

Alessandro **has been trying** to speak to him for weeks.

Yu Yeon **is staying** with her sister.

Describes change and development:

The weather's **changing** - it's **getting** cold again.

Includes actions that are incomplete and have duration

I've **been studying** English for ages.



**Not sure? Ask yourself:**

*Is it complete?*

*Is it temporary?*

*Did it happen / is it happening over a period of time?*