Creating the various English verb forms is as simple as knowing what helping verbs or suffixes to add or modify with each main verb.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tense</th>
<th>Simple</th>
<th>Progressive</th>
<th>Perfect</th>
<th>Perfect Progressive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Simple</td>
<td>Progressive</td>
<td>Perfect</td>
<td>Perfect Progressive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ ed</td>
<td>+ to be and -ing</td>
<td>+ to have</td>
<td>+ to have and to be and -ing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past Tense</td>
<td>I walked</td>
<td>I was walking</td>
<td>I had walked</td>
<td>I had been walking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Present Tense</td>
<td>I walk</td>
<td>I am walking</td>
<td>I have walked</td>
<td>I have been walking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future Tense</td>
<td>I will walk</td>
<td>I will be walking</td>
<td>I will have walked</td>
<td>I will have been walking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Simple Present/ Present Progressive**

- Africa possesses valuable natural resources. (general truth -- everyday, habitual)
- Ramadan ends (is ending) tomorrow. (sometimes indicates future)
- Some students are taking English 101 this semester. (true for a short time)
- John is eating lunch in the cafeteria. (happening right now)

**Simple Past/ Past Progressive**

- Yesterday, an earthquake shook Greece. (completed past action, definite time)
- When the earthquake occurred, people screamed. (two actions in sequence)
- When the earthquake occurred, people were sleeping. (one action interrupted by another)
- While I was sleeping, Tom was reading. (two simultaneous continuous acts)
Present Perfect/ Present Perfect Progressive

Scientists have located new oil reserves in the Pacific. before now, time is not definite

Humans have raised grain for thousands of years. begins in the past, continues now
Humans have been raising grain since 5,000 B.C. often used with since and for

Since I arrived in the U.S., I have been living in D.C. emphasizes continuing action

Past Perfect/ Past Perfect Progressive

By the time Tom went to Rome, he had sold his car. past perfect action precedes another past action

When Tom called me, I had been studying for 3 hours. past perfect continuous action precedes another past action

Simple Future/ Future Progressive

Microsoft is going to hire a new CEO. action that will occur -- a plan

I will help you. future and willingness

At midnight, most people will be sleeping. will occur at a point in the future

While you are working tonight, I will be sleeping. two future continuous actions

As soon as I talk to Lee, I will call you. two future sequential actions

Future Perfect/ Future Perfect Progressive

By midnight, I will have finished the report. completed before a future point

By the time I get home, my husband will have left. IRREGULAR (present + future)

By 4:00 pm, I will have been working for 4 hours. show duration before a future point