

Time expressions used with various tense forms

Usually, never, seldom, always, generally

These expressions are almost always used with the simple present tense.

He seldom donates money to charities.

He always wears neat clothes.

You never thank me for anything.

I usually drink coffee in the morning.

At present, now, at the moment, right now etc

These expressions are usually used with the present continuous tense.

I am learning German now.

He is working on a new novel at present.

He is doing research in molecular biology at the moment.

Already, just, yet

These expressions are usually used with the present perfect tense.

I have already watched that movie.

We have not yet heard from them.

John has just left.

Since and for

These time expressions are usually used with the present perfect and present perfect continuous tenses.

We have lived here since 1999.

I have been working since morning.

It has been raining for hours.

We have been living here for six years.

Yesterday, last year, some years ago

Time expressions used with various tense forms

Use these expressions with the simple past tense.

I met him yesterday.

His father died three years ago.

I visited Japan last year.

Tomorrow, next year, next month

These expressions are usually used with the simple future tense.

I will talk to him tomorrow.

We will move to our new home next month.

He will retire next year.