

English Grammar Tenses Exercises With Answers Handbook

English grammar tenses exercises with answers are essential tools for learners seeking to master the intricacies of English verb forms. Understanding and practicing tenses is fundamental to communicating effectively, as they help convey the timing of actions, states, or events. Whether you're a beginner or looking to refine your skills, engaging with well-designed exercises can significantly improve your grasp of tense usage. This comprehensive guide offers a variety of exercises across different tense categories, complete with answers, to facilitate your learning journey.

Understanding English Grammar Tenses

Before diving into exercises, it's important to understand the basic concept of tense in English. Tenses indicate when an action takes place—past, present, or future—and often include aspects that describe the nature of the action (completed, ongoing, or habitual).

Main Tense Categories:

- Present Tenses
- Past Tenses
- Future Tenses

Each category has multiple forms, such as simple, continuous (progressive), perfect, and perfect continuous, which allow nuanced expression of time and aspect.

Present Tenses Exercises with Answers

1. Simple Present Tense

Exercise: Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

- She ____ (write) a letter every day.
- The sun ____ (rise) in the east.
- I ____ (not / like) spicy food.
- They ____ (play) football on weekends.

- My brother ____ (study) at the university.

Answers:

- writes
- rises
- do not like / don't like
- play
- studies

2. Present Continuous Tense

Exercise: Complete the sentences with the correct present continuous form.

- Right now, I ____ (read) a fascinating book.
- She ____ (not / work) today.
- They ____ (build) a new house in my neighborhood.
- We ____ (wait) for the bus at the moment.
- The children ____ (play) outside.

Answers:

- am reading
- is not working / isn't working
- are building
- are waiting
- are playing

Past Tenses Exercises with Answers

1. Simple Past Tense

Exercise: Fill in the blanks with the correct past tense form of the verbs.

- Yesterday, I ____ (visit) my grandparents.
- She ____ (not / see) the movie last night.
- They ____ (go) to the park yesterday.

- We ____ (finish) our homework before dinner.
- He ____ (buy) a new car last week.

Answers:

- visited
- did not see / didn't see
- went
- finished
- bought

2. Past Continuous Tense

Exercise: Complete the sentences with the correct past continuous form.

- I ____ (cook) dinner when you called.
- She ____ (not / sleep) at that time.
- They ____ (play) football all afternoon.
- We ____ (watch) a movie when the power went out.
- He ____ (study) for his exams yesterday evening.

Answers:

- was cooking
- was not sleeping / wasn't sleeping
- were playing
- were watching
- was studying

Future Tenses Exercises with Answers

1. Simple Future Tense

Exercise: Fill in the blanks with the correct future tense form.

- I ____ (visit) my aunt tomorrow.
- She ____ (not / come) to the party.

- They ____ (start) their new project next week.
- We ____ (see) the doctor later.
- He ____ (buy) a new laptop soon.

Answers:

- will visit
- will not come / won't come
- will start
- will see
- will buy

2. Future Continuous Tense

Exercise: Complete the sentences with the correct future continuous form.

- This time tomorrow, I ____ (travel) to Paris.
- She ____ (not / attend) the meeting next Monday.
- They ____ (work) on the new project all day.
- We ____ (have) dinner at 8 PM.
- He ____ (study) abroad next semester.

Answers:

- will be traveling
- will not be attending / won't be attending
- will be working
- will be having
- will be studying

Mixed Tense Exercises with Answers

To test your overall understanding, here are some mixed tense exercises that incorporate different forms.

Exercise: Choose the correct tense form for each sentence.

- When I ____ (arrive), they ____ (already / leave).
- She ____ (study) French for three years now.
- Tomorrow at this time, I ____ (lie) on the beach.
- He ____ (not / finish) his homework yet.
- By next year, I ____ (live) in this city for a decade.

Answers:

- arrived / had already left
- has been studying
- will be lying
- has not finished / hasn't finished
- will have been living

Tips for Practicing Tenses Effectively

- Consistent Practice: Regularly solve exercises to reinforce your understanding.
- Contextual Learning: Use sentences that relate to your daily life to make learning more relevant.
- Identify Patterns: Notice the patterns in verb forms and their usage.
- Use Flashcards: Create flashcards for different tense rules and example sentences.
- Engage in Speaking and Writing: Practice speaking and writing to internalize tense usage naturally.

Conclusion

Mastering English grammar tenses is crucial for clear and accurate communication. By regularly practicing exercises with answers, learners can improve their understanding and confidence in using different tenses appropriately. Remember to focus on both recognition and production of tense forms, and don't hesitate to revisit challenging areas. With persistence and consistent effort, you'll find yourself more fluent and precise in expressing time-related aspects of actions and events in English.

Start practicing today with these exercises, and soon you'll find tense usage becoming second nature!

English Grammar Tenses Exercises with Answers: A Comprehensive Guide

Mastering English grammar tenses is fundamental for effective communication, whether in writing or speaking. Tenses allow us to specify the timing of actions, events, or states, providing clarity and

precision. To facilitate learning, practicing with exercises accompanied by answers is invaluable. This guide delves into various tense forms, offers exercises, and provides detailed explanations to enhance your grammatical proficiency.

Understanding the Importance of Tenses in English

Before diving into exercises, it's crucial to understand why mastering tenses is essential:

- Clarity in Communication: Tenses specify when an action occurs, helping avoid ambiguity.
- Expressing Time Relations: They enable speakers and writers to relate past, present, and future events logically.
- Improving Writing & Speaking Skills: Proper tense usage enhances the correctness and professionalism of language.

Overview of Major English Tenses

English tenses are broadly categorized into three main time frames:

- Present Tense
- Past Tense
- Future Tense

Each of these has simple, continuous (progressive), perfect, and perfect continuous forms, making a total of 12 primary tense forms:

Tense Category Simple Continuous Perfect Perfect Continuous				
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Present Present Simple Present Continuous Present Perfect Present Perfect Continuous				
Past Past Simple Past Continuous Past Perfect Past Perfect Continuous				
Future Future Simple Future Continuous Future Perfect Future Perfect Continuous				

Detailed Explanation of Each Tense with Exercises and Answers

Present Tense

- Present Simple

Usage:

- General truths (e.g., The sun rises in the east.)
- Habitual actions (e.g., She goes to school every day.)
- Scheduled events (e.g., The train leaves at 6 PM.)

Exercise 1: Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

- a) She _____ (write) emails every morning.
- b) The Earth _____ (orbit) the Sun.
- c) They _____ (not/like) spicy food.
- d) The train _____ (arrive) at 7:00 AM.

Answers:

- a) writes
- b) orbits
- c) do not like / don't like
- d) arrives

- Present Continuous

Usage:

- Actions happening at the moment of speaking (e.g., She is reading now.)
- Temporary actions (e.g., I am staying with a friend this week.)
- Changing situations (e.g., The weather is getting colder.)

Exercise 2: Correctly complete the sentences.

- a) I _____ (study) for my exams right now.
- b) They _____ (play) football in the park.
- c) She _____ (not/attend) the meeting today.
- d) We _____ (wait) for the bus at the moment.

Answers:

- a) am studying
- b) are playing
- c) is not attending / isn't attending
- d) are waiting

Past Tense

- Past Simple

Usage:

- Completed actions at a specific time in the past (e.g., I visited Paris last year.)
- Past habits (e.g., When I was a child, I played football daily.)

Exercise 3: Fill in the blanks with the correct past tense form.

- a) Yesterday, I _____ (buy) a new book.
- b) They _____ (not/go) to the party last weekend.
- c) She _____ (study) French in 2010.
- d) We _____ (see) a movie last night.

Answers:

- a) bought
- b) did not go / didn't go
- c) studied
- d) saw

- Past Continuous

Usage:

- Actions ongoing at a specific past time (e.g., I was reading when she called.)
- Two actions happening simultaneously in the past.

Exercise 4: Complete the sentences.

- a) At 8 PM, I _____ (watch) TV.
- b) They _____ (play) football when it started raining.
- c) She _____ (not/sleep) when I arrived.
- d) We _____ (have) dinner while he was working.

Answers:

- a) was watching
- b) were playing
- c) was not sleeping / wasn't sleeping
- d) were having

Future Tense

- Future Simple

Usage:

- Predictions (e.g., It will rain tomorrow.)
- Spontaneous decisions (e.g., I will help you.)
- Promises (e.g., I will call you later.)

Exercise 5: Fill in the blanks with the correct future tense form.

- a) I _____ (visit) my grandparents tomorrow.
- b) She _____ (not/come) to the party.
- c) We _____ (help) you with your homework.
- d) It _____ (be) sunny next week.

Answers:

- a) will visit
- b) will not come / won't come
- c) will help
- d) will be

- Future Continuous

Usage:

- Actions ongoing at a future time (e.g., This time tomorrow, I will be traveling.)

Exercise 6: Complete the sentences.

- a) At 9 PM, I _____ (watch) a movie.
- b) They _____ (not/attend) the meeting at that time.

c) She _____ (study) at 8 o'clock tonight.

d) We _____ (fly) to New York next week.

Answers:

a) will be watching

b) will not be attending / won't be attending

c) will be studying

d) will be flying

Perfect Tenses

- Present Perfect

Usage:

- Actions that occurred at an unspecified time before now (e.g., I have visited France.)
- Actions started in the past and continue to the present (e.g., She has lived here for five years.)

Exercise 7: Fill in the blanks with the correct form.

a) They _____ (finish) their homework.

b) I _____ (never/see) a lion in real life.

c) She _____ (write) five books so far.

d) We _____ (know) each other since 2010.

Answers:

a) have finished

b) have never seen / never seen

c) has written

d) have known

- Past Perfect

Usage:

- Actions completed before another past action (e.g., I had eaten before he arrived.)
- To show sequence of past events.

Exercise 8: Complete the sentences.

- a) When I arrived, they _____ (already/leave).
- b) She _____ (write) the letter before the phone rang.
- c) We _____ (finish) our homework before the movie started.
- d) He _____ (never/visit) London before his trip last year.

Answers:

- a) had already left
- b) had written
- c) had finished
- d) had never visited

- Future Perfect

Usage:

- Actions that will be completed before a specific future time (e.g., By next year, I will have graduated.)

Exercise 9: Fill in the blanks.

- a) By 2025, I _____ (complete) my degree.
- b) They _____ (finish) the project before the deadline.
- c) She _____ (write) five articles by the end of the month.
- d) We _____ (reach) the station by then.

Answers:

- a) will have completed
- b) will have finished
- c) will have written
- d) will have reached

Perfect Continuous Tenses

- Present Perfect Continuous

Usage:

- Actions that started in the past and are still continuing or have recently stopped, emphasizing duration (e.g., I have been studying for two hours.)

Exercise 10: Complete the sentences.

- a) She _____ (work) here since 2010.
- b) They _____ (play) football all afternoon.
- c) I _____ (wait) for you for over an hour.
- d) We _____ (learn) English for three years.

Answers:

- a) has been working
- b) have been playing
- c) have been waiting
- d) have been learning

- Past Perfect Continuous

Usage:

- Actions ongoing up to a specific point in the past, often with a focus on duration.

Exercise 11: Fill in the blanks.

- a) He _____ (study) for hours before he took a break.
- b) They _____ (argue) all morning.
- c) I _____ (wait) for an hour when she finally arrived.
- d) We _____ (work) on the project before the deadline.

Answers:

- a) had been studying
- b) had been arguing
- c) had been waiting
- d) had been working

- Future Perfect Continuous

Usage:

- Actions that will be ongoing up to a point in the future, emphasizing duration (e.g., By next month, I

Question What are the main types of English tenses used in exercises? The main types include present, past, and future tenses, each with simple, continuous, perfect, and perfect continuous aspects. How can I improve my understanding of tense usage through exercises? Practicing varied exercises that require you to fill in blanks, choose correct options, or rewrite sentences helps reinforce tense rules and contextual usage. What is the difference between present simple and present continuous tenses? Present simple describes habitual actions or general truths (e.g., 'She reads books'), while present continuous refers to actions happening at the moment of speaking (e.g., 'She is reading now'). Why are perfect tenses important in English grammar exercises? Perfect tenses express completed actions or states related to other points in time, helping to convey precise timing and sequence in sentences. Can practicing tense exercises help in improving English speaking skills? Yes, practicing tense exercises enhances your ability to use correct verb forms, making your spoken English more accurate and fluent. What are some common mistakes students make with tense exercises? Common mistakes include confusing similar tenses, incorrect verb forms, and inconsistent tense shifts within a sentence or paragraph. Are online tense exercises with answers effective for self-study? Yes, they provide immediate feedback, allowing learners to identify and correct mistakes, which accelerates learning and understanding of tense usage. How often should I practice tense exercises to see improvement? Practicing regularly, preferably daily or several times a week, helps reinforce rules and improves accuracy over time.

Related keywords: English grammar, tenses exercises, grammar practice, tense worksheet, verb tense exercises, English tense rules, grammar quiz, tense practice questions, grammar test with answers, verb tense practice

An Introduction To English Language

An Introduction to English Language

The English language is one of the most widely spoken and influential languages in the world today. From global business and international diplomacy to entertainment and technology, English serves as a vital communication tool across countless domains. Understanding the roots, development, and characteristics of the English language is essential for learners, educators, linguists, and anyone

interested in global communication. This comprehensive guide aims to provide an insightful introduction to the English language, exploring its history, structure, global significance, and future trends.

Historical Background of the English Language

The Origins of English

English is a Germanic language that originated in early medieval England. Its roots can be traced back to the Anglo-Saxon tribes—Angles, Saxons, and Jutes—that migrated to the British Isles around the 5th century AD. The language spoken by these tribes formed the basis of Old English.

The Evolution Through Ages

The history of English is marked by several distinct periods:

- **Old English (c. 450–1150 AD):** Characterized by Germanic roots, Old English was heavily influenced by Norse invaders and Latin church influence.
- **Middle English (c. 1150–1500 AD):** Marked by Norman conquest in 1066, which introduced Norman French vocabulary and grammar influences.
- **Early Modern English (c. 1500–1700 AD):** The Renaissance brought a revival of classical learning, expanding vocabulary and standardizing spelling and grammar.
- **Modern English (1700 AD to present):** The language continued to evolve with colonial expansion, technological advances, and globalization, leading to the diverse forms of English spoken today.

The Role of Literary and Cultural Influences

English literature, from Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* to William Shakespeare's plays and modern authors like J.K. Rowling, has significantly shaped the language's development. Cultural exchanges through colonization, trade, and diplomacy have also contributed to the vocabulary and idiomatic expressions in English.

The Structure and Features of the English Language

Phonology and Pronunciation

English phonology includes a wide range of vowel and consonant sounds. The pronunciation varies significantly across different regions and accents, which adds to the language's richness but also presents challenges for learners.

Vocabulary and Lexicon

English boasts one of the largest vocabularies among languages, with estimates ranging from 150,000 to over a million words, considering technical and scientific terms. This extensive lexicon is a result of:

- Borrowings from Latin, French, Greek, and other languages
- Coining of new terms during technological and scientific advancements
- Slang and colloquialisms evolving over time

Grammar and Syntax

English grammar is characterized by:

- Relatively simple verb conjugation compared to other languages
- Use of auxiliary verbs for tense and aspect (e.g., be, have, do)
- Flexible word order, with Subject-Verb-Object being standard
- Extensive use of prepositions and articles

Writing System

English uses the Latin alphabet, consisting of 26 letters. Its orthography (spelling system) can be complex due to historical spelling conventions, silent letters, and irregular pronunciation rules.

The Global Significance of the English Language

English as a Global Lingua Franca

Today, English is regarded as the world's primary lingua franca—an auxiliary language used for international communication. It is the official or working language in over 50 countries and widely used in international organizations like the United Nations and the International Olympic Committee.

English in Business and Commerce

English dominates international business, finance, and trade. Many multinational corporations operate primarily in English, and proficiency is often a prerequisite for global career opportunities.

English in Science, Technology, and Education

A significant portion of scientific research, technological development, and academic publications are in English. Universities worldwide offer courses in English to attract international students.

English in Media and Entertainment

English-language media, including movies, music, television, and literature, have a global reach. Hollywood films, English pop music, and online streaming platforms have popularized the language worldwide.

English on the Internet and Social Media

English is the dominant language on the internet, accounting for a large percentage of online content. Social media platforms facilitate global interaction primarily in English, further fostering its universal status.

Learning and Teaching the English Language

Why Learn English?

Learning English offers numerous benefits:

- Access to a vast amount of information and educational resources
- Enhanced employability and career prospects
- Ability to communicate with people worldwide
- Participation in global culture and entertainment

Methods of Learning English

Effective approaches include:

- Classroom instruction with trained teachers
- Online courses and language learning apps
- Immersive experiences through travel and cultural exchange
- Practice with native speakers or language exchange partners

Challenges in Learning English

Some common difficulties faced by learners are:

- Complex spelling and pronunciation rules
- Irregular verb forms
- Idiomatic expressions and phrasal verbs
- Regional accents and dialects

The Future of the English Language

Emerging Trends

English continues to evolve with technological innovations:

- Increased influence of digital communication and social media
- Emergence of new slang and internet vernacular
- Globalization leading to more diverse accents and dialects
- Integration of loanwords from other languages due to cultural exchange

Potential Challenges

As the language grows, there are concerns about:

- Language homogenization potentially overshadowing regional dialects
- Loss of linguistic diversity
- Difficulty in maintaining standardization across different regions

Conclusion

The English language remains a dynamic and influential means of communication. Its rich history, extensive vocabulary, and widespread use make it an invaluable global asset. Whether for personal growth, academic pursuits, or professional development, learning English opens doors to countless opportunities. As the world continues to embrace globalization and technological innovation, the role of English is poised to expand further, shaping the future of international communication.

Keywords for SEO Optimization:

- Introduction to English language
- History of English
- English language structure
- Global importance of English

- Learn English online
- English language development
- English as a lingua franca
- Benefits of learning English
- Future of the English language
- English language learning tips

Introduction to the English Language: A Comprehensive Overview

The English language, often regarded as the global lingua franca, has a rich history, complex structure, and widespread influence that permeates nearly every corner of the world. As one of the most widely spoken and studied languages today, understanding its fundamentals offers invaluable insights into its role in communication, culture, and international relations. This detailed exploration delves into the origins, evolution, grammatical features, vocabulary, phonetics, and the significance of English in contemporary society.

Historical Background of the English Language

Origins and Early Development

The roots of English trace back over 1,400 years to the Germanic tribes—namely the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes—who migrated to the British Isles around the 5th century AD. These tribes brought with them their languages, which gradually coalesced into what we now call Old English.

Key points about early English:

- Old English (circa 450–1150 AD): Characterized by a complex system of inflections, a vocabulary heavily influenced by Latin and Norse, and a rich oral tradition including epic poetry like *Beowulf*.
- Influence of Latin and Norse: Latin arrived through Christian missionaries, while Norse influence increased due to Viking invasions, shaping vocabulary and syntax.

Middle English and the Norman Conquest

The Norman Conquest of 1066 marked a pivotal turning point:

- Norman French influence: The ruling class spoke Norman French, which heavily influenced the vocabulary, especially in law, governance, art, and cuisine.
- Language features: Middle English (circa 1150–1500) saw simplification of inflectional endings

and an expansion of vocabulary.

Early Modern English and the Renaissance

From the late 15th to the early 17th century:

- The Renaissance: Brought a revival of classical learning and an influx of Latin and Greek words.
- The printing press: Invented by Johannes Gutenberg, it standardized spelling and grammar, making literature more accessible.
- Notable figures: William Shakespeare and the King James Bible significantly shaped the language.

Modern English and Global Spread

Since the 17th century:

- Colonial expansion: British colonization spread English worldwide.
- Industrial Revolution: Facilitated international trade and communication.
- Contemporary English: Continues to evolve with influences from numerous languages and cultures, especially in the digital age.

Structural Aspects of the English Language

Phonetics and Pronunciation

English phonetics is known for its complexity and variability:

- Consonant and vowel sounds: The language features approximately 24 consonant sounds and around 20 vowel sounds, with many variations.
- Spelling and pronunciation discrepancies: Due to historical influences, English spelling often does not align directly with pronunciation (e.g., though vs. through).

Grammar and Syntax

English grammar, while relatively straightforward compared to some languages, has distinctive features:

- Parts of speech: Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections.
- Sentence structure: Typically follows a Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) order.
- Tenses: Present, past, future, along with perfect and progressive aspects.
- Agreement: Subject-verb agreement in number and person.
- Modifiers: Use of adjectives and adverbs to add detail.

Vocabulary and Lexicon

English boasts an extensive vocabulary, estimated at over a million words:

- Loanwords: Borrowed extensively from Latin, French, Greek, German, and many other languages.
- Synonyms and antonyms: Rich variety of words with nuanced differences, offering precision and expressiveness.
- Neologisms: Continual creation of new words, especially in technology and popular culture.

Unique Features of the English Language

Orthography and Spelling

English spelling can be irregular due to its diverse origins:

- Historical influences: Words retain spellings from older forms or borrowed languages.
- Examples: Knight, psychology, colonel.
- Spelling reforms: There have been proposals but no widespread standardization.

Idioms and Phrasal Verbs

Idiomatic expressions and phrasal verbs are integral:

- Idioms: Phrases whose meanings are not deducible from individual words (e.g., kick the bucket).
- Phrasal verbs: Verb + particle combinations with idiomatic meanings (e.g., look up, give in).

Varieties and Dialects

English manifests in numerous dialects:

- British English: Variations like Cockney, Received Pronunciation.
- American English: Distinct vocabulary and pronunciation.
- Other varieties: Australian, Canadian, Indian English, each with unique features.

The Role of English in the Modern World

Global Lingua Franca

English is the primary language of:

- International diplomacy
- Business and commerce
- Science and technology
- Entertainment and media

English in Education and Research

- Most scientific journals publish in English.
- Universities worldwide offer courses in English.
- English proficiency is often a requirement for international careers.

The Digital Age and English

- Dominance in internet content, social media, and digital communication.
- Emergence of digital slang, memes, and abbreviations, influencing language evolution.

Cultural Impact

- English-language music, films, and literature shape global pop culture.
- Cultural exchange and understanding facilitated through shared language.

Learning and Teaching English

Methods and Approaches

- Traditional grammar-translation

- Communicative language teaching
- Immersive and bilingual approaches
- Use of technology and online platforms

Challenges for Learners

- Irregular spelling and pronunciation
- Idiomatic expressions
- Extensive vocabulary
- Variations in dialects and accents

Resources and Tools

- Language apps (Duolingo, Babbel)
- Online courses and tutorials
- Media and literature in English
- Language exchange programs

Conclusion

The English language remains a dynamic, influential, and complex means of communication. Its history reflects centuries of cultural exchange and adaptation, shaping a language that is both diverse and adaptable. For learners, educators, and global citizens alike, understanding English's structure, history, and role in society unlocks numerous opportunities for connection, learning, and cultural appreciation. As it continues to evolve in the digital age, English's significance is poised to grow, cementing its status as a cornerstone of international communication.

In summary, mastering the English language provides access to a vast repository of knowledge, culture, and opportunities. Its rich history and widespread use make it a fascinating subject of study and an essential skill in today's interconnected world. Whether for academic pursuits, professional advancement, or cultural engagement, an introduction to English opens the door to endless possibilities.

Question What are the key features that define the English language? English is a West Germanic language characterized by a rich vocabulary, extensive use of loanwords, and a flexible grammar system. It is known for its adaptability, widespread global use, and its role as a lingua franca in international communication. **Answer** How did the English language develop over time? English evolved from the Anglo-Saxon languages brought to Britain by Germanic tribes around the 5th century. It was later influenced by Norman French, Latin, and other languages, leading to the

Modern English we use today. This development spans Old English, Middle English, and Modern English periods. Why is English considered a global language? English is considered a global language because it is the primary or secondary language in many countries, used extensively in international business, science, technology, entertainment, and diplomacy, making it a key tool for global communication. What are the main components of learning the English language? Learning English involves mastering four main components: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Additionally, understanding grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and cultural context are essential for effective communication. How has the internet influenced the spread and evolution of the English language? The internet has accelerated the global spread of English, introduced new slang, abbreviations, and digital communication styles, and facilitated intercultural exchange, thereby continuously shaping and evolving the language in real-time.

Related keywords: English language, language learning, linguistics, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, syntax, phonetics, language skills, language history

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