

Class 1 - Tenses

Present Simple tense

Tenses are a grammatical concept used to indicate when an action or event occurred in time. In English and many other languages, verbs can change their form to express different tenses. Tenses are a fundamental part of language because they help convey the timing and sequencing of actions, events, and states. English has several tenses, and each serves a specific purpose.

There are three main tenses

- Past Tense
- Present Tense
- Future Tense

Four Types of Present Tense

- Present Simple Tense
- Present Continuous Tense
- Present Perfect Tense
- Present Perfect Continuous Tense

Four Types of Past Tense

- Past Simple Tense
- Past Continuous Tense
- Past Perfect Tense
- Past Perfect Continuous Tense

Four Types of Future Tense

- Future Simple Tense
- Future Continuous Tense
- Future Perfect Tense
- Future Perfect Continuous Tense

Present Simple Tense

The Present Simple Tense is a grammatical tense used to describe actions, events, or states that are habitual, factual, or general truths. It is often used to express actions that occur regularly, routines, scientific facts, and permanent situations. Here's how to form and use the Present Simple Tense:

Form:

1. For most regular verbs, you simply use the base form of the verb (the infinitive without "to"). For example: I work at a company. She plays the piano.
2. For third-person singular subjects (he, she, it), you usually add an "-s" to the base form of the verb: He works at a company. She plays the piano.
3. For negative sentences and questions, you typically use the auxiliary verb "do" (or "does" for third-person singular) in its base form "do," and then follow it with the base form of the main verb: Negative: I do not (don't) work on weekends. Question: Do you work on weekends?

Usage:

1. **Habitual Actions:** The Present Simple is often used to describe actions that are habitual or routines, things that you do regularly. I go to the gym every morning. They have breakfast at 7:00 AM.
2. **Facts and General Truths:** It is used to state general truths, scientific facts, or things that are always true. The Earth revolves around the Sun. Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius.
3. **Scheduled Events:** The Present Simple can be used to describe scheduled events in the future, particularly when referring to timetables or calendars. The train leaves at 8:00 AM tomorrow.
4. **States and Descriptions:** It can describe states or characteristics that are unchanging or permanent. He lives in New York. She is a teacher.
5. **Reporting and Storytelling:** It is often used in literature, storytelling, or when summarizing events in a narrative. In a distant land, there lives a wise king.

6. **Opinions and Beliefs:** It can be used to express opinions, beliefs, or emotions.
I believe in honesty. She likes classical music.

Sentences Structure Rule

Affirmative Sentences:

Subject + Base Verb (s/es for third-person singular) + Rest of the Sentence

Example: "She plays tennis every weekend."

Negative Sentences:

Subject + Do/Does + Not + Base Verb + Rest of the Sentence

Example: I do not like broccoli.

Questions/Interrogative:

(Question Word) + Do/Does + Subject + Base Verb + Rest of the Sentence?

Example: Do you play the guitar?

Remember, when using the Present Simple tense: For third-person singular subjects (he, she, it), you usually add "s" or "es" to the base verb (e.g., "He reads books"). "Do" is used in negative and question sentences for all subjects except third-person singular (he, she, it). "Does" is used in negative and question sentences for third-person singular subjects.

Present Continuous tense

The Present Continuous tense, also known as the Present Progressive tense, is used to describe actions or events that are happening right now, at the current moment, or around the current time. Here's a more detailed explanation of the Present Continuous tense:

Sentences Structure Rule

Affirmative Sentences:

Subject + Am/Is/Are + Base Verb + -ing + Rest of the Sentence

Example: She is playing the piano.

Negative Sentences:

Subject + Am/Is/Are + Not + Base Verb + -ing + Rest of the Sentence

Example: They are not watching TV.

Questions/Interrogative:

Am/Is/Are + Subject + Base Verb + -ing + Rest of the Sentence?

Example: Are you studying for the test?

In the Present Continuous tense:

"Am" is used with the first-person singular subject "I." "Is" is used with the third-person singular subjects (he, she, it). "Are" is used with the second-person singular subject "you" and with all plural subjects (we, they).

Present Perfect tense

The Present Perfect tense is used to describe actions or situations that have a connection to the present moment, even though they occurred at an unspecified time in the past. It is often used to convey the idea that the action is relevant to the current situation or has an impact on the present.

Sentences Structure Rule

Affirmative Sentences:

Subject + Have/Has + Past Participle (Verb's third form) + Rest of the Sentence

Example: "I have visited Paris."

Negative Sentences:

Subject + Have/Has + Not + Past Participle + Rest of the Sentence

Example: "They have not completed the project."

Questions/Interrogative:

Have/Has + Subject + Past Participle + Rest of the Sentence?

Example: "Have you ever travelled abroad?"

In the Present Perfect tense: "Have" is used with the first-person singular and plural subjects (I, we, they). "Has" is used with the third-person singular subjects (he, she, it). The Past Participle of regular verbs is formed by adding "ed" to the base verb, while irregular verbs have unique forms.

Present Perfect Continuous Tense

The Present Perfect Continuous tense, also known as the Present Perfect Progressive tense, is used to describe actions or situations that started in the past, have been ongoing, and continue into the present or have just recently stopped. It emphasizes the duration of the action and its relevance to the current moment.

Sentences Structure Rule

Affirmative Sentences:

Subject + Have/Has + Been + Base Verb + -ing + Rest of the Sentence

Example: "She has been working on the project all day."

Negative Sentences:

Subject + Have/Has + Not + Been + Base Verb + -ing + Rest of the Sentence

Example: "They have not been studying for long."

Questions/Interrogative:

Have/Has + Subject + Been + Base Verb + -ing + Rest of the Sentence?

Example: "Have you been exercising regularly?"

In the Present Perfect Continuous tense: "Have" is used with the first-person singular and plural subjects (I, we, they). "Has" is used with the third-person singular subjects (he, she, it).



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