

TENSE

Verb based method used to indicate the time, and sometimes the continuation or completeness, of an action or state in relation to the time of speaking:

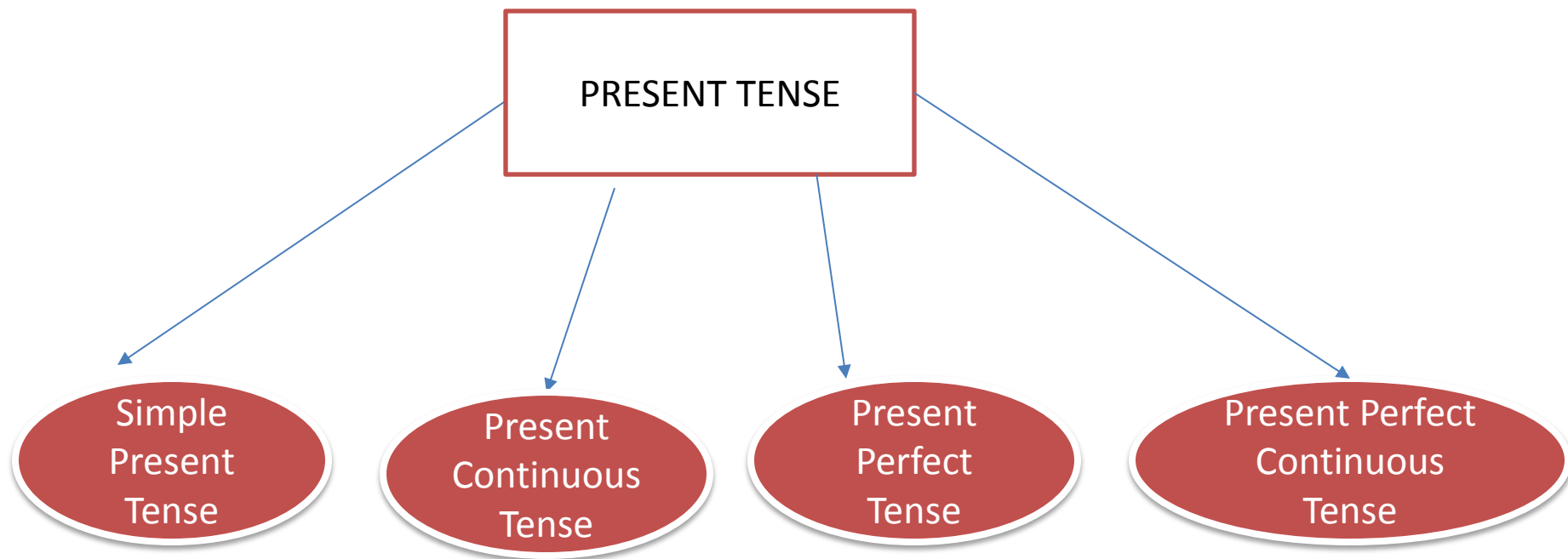
1. Time expresses:

- a. Past- before now.
- b. Present- now, or any time that includes now.
- c. Future- after now.

2. Aspect can be:

- a. Continuous-uncompleted action.
- b. Perfective- completed action or state.

Types of Present Tense



PRESENT TENSES

a. **Simple Present Tense:**

Main Meanings

- Habit or repeated.
- Fact that's always true.

b. **Present Continuous Tense:**

Main Meanings

- Happening right now.
 - You are reading this sentence.
- Action isn't finished, but might not be happening right now.
 - John is studying English this semester, but he isn't studying right now; he's eating dinner.

PRESENT TENSES

c. **Present Perfect Tense:**

Main Meanings

Usually means this action started in the past and has continued till now.

d. **Present Perfect Continuous Tense:**

Main Meanings

Action started in the past and has continued until now.

SIMPLE PRESENT TENSES

What does Simple Present Tense mean?

Usually, Simple Present Tense means

- That the action is a habit in the present.
- That the action is always or usually true (universal truth).

Affirmative:- S + V1/V5 + Obj.

Negative:- S + do/does + V1 + Obj.

Interrogative:- Do/does + S + V1 + Obj.

Examples:- I usually eat lunch at the school cafeteria. (habit in the present).

- The moon travels around the earth. (always or usually true).

1. Statement

If the subject is I, you, we or they, use the simple form of the verb.

Examples:- I go to bed at 11.00

- You go to bed at 11.00
- We go to bed at 11.00
- George and Samantha (they) go to bed at 11.00.

SIMPLE PRESENT TENSES

2. Statement

If the subject is he, she, or it, add –s or –es to the simple form of the verb.

Examples:- Michael (he) goes to bed at 11.00

- Alice goes to bed at 11.00
- Carmen's pet elephant (it) goes to bed at 11.00

Negative Statements do/does + not + simple form.

Examples:- Americans usually do not eat soup for breakfast.

- John does not play tennis.

Interrogative (Question word) + do + subject + simple form.

Examples:- Does your pet gorilla bite?

- Do you buy your groceries at Mall?

PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE

What does Present Continuous Tense mean?

Usually, Present Continuous Tense means

- The action is happening right now or (more generally).
- The action is unfinished and still continuing.

Statements:- **S + am/is/are + verb-ing + Obj.**

Examples:- I am writing this book on the computer in my living room.

- We are studying verb tenses.

Negative Statements:- **S + am/is/are + not + verb-ing + Obj.**

Examples:- John isn't watching TV; he is playing with his dog.

- Leah and Ben aren't eating dinner now.

Interrogative: (Question word) + **am/is/are + subject + verb-ing + Obj.**

Examples:- Is John eating dinner now?

- Where is Alice studying?

PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

What does Present Perfect Tense mean?

Usually, we use Present Perfect Tense

- When we want to look back from the present to the past.
- Use it to look back on the recent past.

When we look back on the recent past, we often use the words 'just' 'already' or the word 'yet' (in negative and questions only)

- We've already talked about that.
- She hasn't arrived yet.
- I've just done it.

Affirmative:- **S + have/has + V3 + Obj.**

Examples:- Ralph **has won** many bowling trophies.

- I **have** often **wondered** why Ludwig is always late.

Negative:- **have/has + S + not + V3 + Obj.**

Example:- I **have not washed** the dishes yet.

Interrogative: (Question word) + **have/has + S + V3 + Obj.**

Examples:- Have you seen the movie Titanic?

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE

What does Present Perfect Continuous Tense mean?

This Tense is used to talk about an action or actions that started in the past and continued until recently or that continue into the future.

Affirmative:- **S + have/has + been + V4 + Obj.**

Examples:- John **has been thinking** about getting a tattoo.

- Betty and Barney **have been remodeling** their garage.

Negative:- **S + have/has + not + been + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- My car **hasn't been running** smoothly. I think I'll take it to the mechanic.

- Manuel **hasn't been doing** his homework since he got a third job.

Interrogative: (Question word) + **have/has + S + been + V4 + Obj.**

Examples:- **Has** Fred **been working** nights? He looks tired.

- Why **have** you **been avoiding** me?

PAST TENSE

Simple Past

Action started in past and completed in past itself V= past form (V2=did + V1)

Past Continuous

Action in progress in past at specific point of time Verb=was/were + V1 + Ing

Past Perfect

States about an action completed before another action took place in past
Verb=had + V3

Past Perfect Continuous

Started in past continued for some time and ended in past
Verb=had+been+V1+Ing

Past Tense

SIMPLE PAST TENSE

What does Simple Past Tense mean?

The simple past tense usually means that this action ended in the past. Simple past tense can be used for most past actions; we can use it for

- Actions that happened quickly.
- Actions that happened over time.
- Actions that were habits in the past.

Affirmative:- **S + V2 + Obj.**

Verb-ed or irregular past form (if the verb is irregular)

Examples:- Harry **called** his mother to wish her happy birthday.

- I **taught** in high school for seven years before teaching at BELS.

Negative:- **S + did + not + been + V1 + Obj.**

Example:- George W Bush **did not attend** Bristol University.

- I didn't see Betty at the mall.

Interrogative: **Did + S + been + V1 + Obj.**

Examples:- **Did** you **wash** the dishes?

- **Why** did you **pour** ketchup on my head?

PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE

What does Past Continuous Tense mean?

Past Continuous Tense always happen over time, so Past Continuous means that the action happened over time in the past.

Examples:

- I was studying all night for that history test! (This action happened over time in the past)
- Were you sleeping when I called? (I want to know if this action was happening over time when I called)
- No, I wasn't sleeping when you called (This action was not happening over time when you called)

Affirmative:- **S + was/were + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- Bryan **was watching** TV when the microwave exploded.

Negative:- **S + was/were + not + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- When I woke up, I knew that it was still night time because the sun **was not shining**.

Interrogative: (Question word) **Did + S + was/were + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- **Was** PM Cameron **cooking** dinner when you called him last night?

- **What** were you **reading** last night me?

PAST PERFECT TENSE

What does Past Perfect Tense mean?

Past Perfect usually means that this action finished before something in the past.

Example:- Bryan has eaten dinner before he started his homework. (He ate dinner first, and later he started his homework.)

Affirmative:- **S + had + V3 + Obj.**

Example:- Lucy and Harry **had worked** at the candy factory for only three hours before they quit.

Negative:- **S + had + not + V3 + Obj.**

Example:- I felt nervous when I got to class because **I had not done** my homework.

Interrogative: (Question word) **Had + S + V3 + Obj.**

Example:- **Had** you ever **eaten** American food before coming to the United States?

PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE

What does Past Perfect Continuous Tense mean?

Perfect actions happen before something. Continuous actions happen over time. We use Past Continuous Tense when we want to make it clear that the action was happening

- Over time
- Until (or almost until) something
- In the past

Another way to say the same thing is that we use past perfect continuous to show that an action started before a time in the past and that the action continued until (or almost until) that time.

Affirmative:- **S + had + been + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- Amada was exhausted. She **had been cooking** all afternoon.

Negative:- **S + had + not + been + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- Betty looked so thin the last time we met! I think she **hadn't been eating** properly.

Interrogative: (Question word) + **Had + S + been + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- **What had** Fred **been doing** before Sandra got home?

SIMPLE FUTURE TENSE

What does Simple Future Tense mean?

Future is pretty straight forward; it means that the action will happen in the future, in other words, sometime after this moment. Like simple past, it can be used for actions that will

- Happen quickly, Happen over time, or Happen repeatedly.

Example:- John will be here in a second or two. (This action will happen in the future)

Affirmative (with will):- **S + will/shall + V1 + Obj.**

Examples:- John will do his homework after he eats his dinner.

- I'll call you tomorrow.

Affirmative (with 'be going to'):- **S + is/am/are + going to + V1 + Obj.**

Examples:- John is going to do his homework after he eats dinner.

- I'm going to call you tomorrow.

Negative:- **S + had + not + been + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- Betty looked so thin the last time we met! I think she **hadn't been eating** properly.

Interrogative: (Question word) + **Had + S + been + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- **What had** Fred **been doing** before Sandra got home?

SIMPLE FUTURE TENSE

Negative (with '**will**'):- **S + will/shall + not + V1 + Obj.**

Example:- Matt won't go to the party because he needs to finish the homework for his Chinese class.

Negative (with '**be going to**'):- **S + is/am/are + not + going to + V1 + Obj.**

Example:- Matt isn't going to go to the party because he needs to finish the homework for his Chinese class

Interrogative (with '**will**'): (question word) + **will + S + V1 + Obj.**

Examples:- Will you be in class tomorrow?

- When will find love of my dreams?

Interrogative (with '**is going to**'): (question word) + **is/am/are + going to + V1 + Obj.**

Examples:- Are you going to be in class tomorrow?

- When am I going to find love of my dreams?

FUTURE CONTINUOUS TENSE

What does Future Continuous Tense mean?

Basically, future continuous tense means that an action will happen over time in the future. It's used in the same way as past continuous, except that we are talking about the future instead of the past.

Examples:- **I'll be studying** all night for that history test! (this action will happen over time in the future).

- **Will you be sleeping** at 11.30 tonight? I might need to call you if I need a ride home from work. (I want to know if this action will be happening over time at 11.30)

Affirmative (with '**will**'):- **S + will/shall + be + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- Ricky **will be working** at 3.00 tomorrow afternoon.

Affirmative (with '**be going to**'):- **S + is/am/are + going to + be + V4 + Obj.**

Examples:- Ricky **is going to be working** at 3.00 tomorrow afternoon.

FUTURE CONTINUOUS TENSE

Negative (with '**will**'):- **S + will/shall + not + be + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- Barney won't be working tomorrow. He has the day off.

Negative (with '**be going to**'):- **S + is/am/are + not + going to + be + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- Barney **isn't going to be working** tomorrow. He has the day off.

Interrogative (with '**will**'): (question word) + **will + S + be + V4 + Obj.**

Examples:- **Will** you **be working** at 11.00 tomorrow?

Interrogative (with '**is going to**'): (question word) + **is/am/are + going to + be + V4 + Obj.**

Examples:- Are you going to be working at 11.00 tomorrow?

FUTURE PERFECT TENSE

What does Future Perfect Tense mean?

Future perfect means that this action will happen before something in the future. It has exactly the same meanings as past perfect, except the time is the future.

Affirmative:- **S + will/shall + have + V3 + Obj.**

Example:- I will have eaten dinner before I go to bed.

Negative:- **S + will/shall + not + have + V3 + Obj.**

Examples:- The mail usually comes at 1.00, so at 12.00 tomorrow, the mail probably won't have arrived yet.

Interrogative: (question word) + **will/shall + S + have + V3 + Obj.**

Example:- How many cities will Cheryl and Carl have visited by the time they finish their vacation?

- Will you have washed the car when I get home?

FUTURE PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE

What does Future Perfect Continuous Tense mean?

Future Perfect Continuous tense is a verb tense that you might never use; it's pretty rare and almost never necessary.

We use future perfect continuous tense when we want to make it clear that the action will happen

- Over time
- Until (or almost until) something
- In the future

Affirmative:- **S + will/shall + have + been + V4 + Obj.**

Examples:- I hope that when I get home tonight, my son will have been doing his homework.

- When June gets home, Marcus will have been grilling the burgers for about 10 minutes.

Negative:- **S + will/shall + not + have + been + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- Don't worry. The movie starts at 7.00, and we should get to the theatre at about 7.05, so the movie won't have been playing very long when we get there. We won't have missed much.

Interrogative: (question word) + **will/shall + S + have + been + V4 + Obj.**

Example:- How many years will Barney have been working on his novel when he finally finishes it?