

TENSE

in English Grammar:

DEFINITION

TYPES

TENSE

Lecture Two

DEFINITION

TYPES

	PAST	PRESENT	Tense and Aspect
Simple	<p>I ate</p> <p>past action I ate at lunchtime</p> <p>past habit / repeated action I played the violin when I was young</p>	<p>I eat</p> <p>habit / repeated action I eat salad every day</p> <p>facts The sun rises</p> <p>schedule future event My plane lands at 11.20</p>	
Continuous	<p>I was eating</p> <p>on-going past action (if interrupted past simple follows) I was eating when she arrived</p> <p>parallel actions I was writing while she was dictating</p>	<p>I am eating</p> <p>action happening right now I am eating my lunch</p> <p>planned future action I am going out tonight</p>	
Perfect	<p>I had eaten</p> <p>completed past action before 2nd past action (in past simple) I had eaten before she arrived</p> <p>duration of completed action I had waited for 2 hours before he arrived</p>	<p>I have eaten</p> <p>past action I have eaten squid twice</p> <p>duration - from past to now I have lived here since 2010</p>	
Perfect Continuous	<p>I had been eating</p> <p>interrupted on-going past action (past simple follows) I had been eating when she arrived</p>	<p>I have been eating</p> <p>action started in the past continuing to now I have been eating cake all day</p> <p>duration - from past to now I have been working here for 3 years</p>	

Structure

TENSES CHART

PRESENT TENSE

SIMPLE PRESENT

Verb+ s/es

I eat.
She eats.
I don't eat.
Do you eat?
He cooks dinner
everyday.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

am/is/are+Verb+ing

I am eating.
She is eating.
I am not eating.
Is she eating?
He is cooking now.

PRESENT PERFECT

have/has+past participle

I have eaten.
She has eaten.
She has not eaten.
Has she eaten?
He has cooked many
meals.

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

have/has+been+verb+ing

I have been eating.
She has been eating.
She has not been eating.
Has she been eating?
He has been cooking for over
an hour.

The Present Simple tense is the most basic tense in English and uses the base form of the verb (except for the verb be). The only change from the base is the addition of -s for third person singular.

Use when making a general statement of truth at the present point in time.

subject + verb (+ s)

I eat breakfast every day.

It snows in Alaska.

Used for simple sentences in the present tense, which are happening now or have happened in recent times.

Always has a subject and a verb, even if the subject is only implied.

Examples

I go to work.

Go! (meaning - You go!)

Here are some examples of sentences using the present simple tense.



Mario **hikes** every weekend.



Karen and Lucy's teams **play** each other in the tournament.



We always **read** books before going to bed.



Eric **eats** salads for lunch at work.

This tense is also known as simple present.

POLL QUESTION

Which of these is an example of simple present tense?

a) I am going to Delhi tomorrow.

b) There she goes!

c) He has just gone out.

d) I am reading the gita.

Answer

Option B

Present Continuous is used to talk about:
1.action happening now
2.action in the future

The action is going on
right now.

**subject + am / is / are
+ verb-ing**

Amy and Sue are playing
at the moment.

Right now,
I am eating breakfast.

Used for simple sentences
in the present, which are
still happening.

Uses the auxiliary verbs
'am', 'are' or 'is', plus the
main verb as the **present
participle** ('ing').

Example

She **is** watching.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

THE ACTION IS HAPPENING NOW.
IT STARTED IN THE PAST AND ENDS IN THE FUTURE.



EXAMPLES

MICHAEL IS JOGGING.

HE IS JOGGING RIGHT NOW.

POLL QUESTION

Which of these statements belongs to present continuous tense (plural)?

- a) We are writing a letter.*
- b) She is writing a letter.*
- c) They were writing a letter.*
- d) We were writing a letter.*

Answer

Option A

We use the Present Perfect to talk about:

- 1. experience*
- 2. change*
- 3. continuing situation*

Use for an action that happened in the past before the present moment.

subject + have / has + past participle

I have already eaten breakfast.

He has eaten lunch.

Uses the auxiliary verb 'has' or 'have' (in the present tense), plus the main verb as the **past participle**.

Example

They **have** watched.

PRESENT PERFECT

THE ACTION FINISHED SOMETIME BEFORE NOW.
SPECIFIC TIME IS NOT IMPORTANT.



EXAMPLES

MICHAEL HAS JOGGED.

HE HAS JOGGED ALREADY.

POLL QUESTION

The statement '*I have written a letter*' belongs to which of these tenses?

- a) Simple present tense
- b) Present perfect tense
- c) Present continuous tense
- d) Present perfect continuous tense

Answer

Option B

We use the Present Perfect Continuous to talk about:
1.past action recently-stopped
2.past action still-continuing

Use for an action that was happening for a length of time up to the present moment.

subject + have / has + been + verbing I've

I have been eating my breakfast for 30 minutes.

She's been eating biscuits all day

Uses the auxiliary verb 'has' or 'have' (in the present tense), plus 'be' as the ***past participle*** ('been'), plus the main verb as the ***present participle*** ('ing').

Example

They **have been** watching.

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

THE ACTION CONTINUED FOR A SPECIFIC AMOUNT OF TIME BEFORE NOW OR STARTED RECENTLY.



EXAMPLES

MICHAEL HAS BEEN JOGGING.

HE HAS BEEN JOGGING FOR AN HOUR.

POLL QUESTION

Choose the correct statement:

- a) I am a student for over three years now.*
- b) I have been a student for over three years now.*
- c) I am being a student for over three years now.*
- d) I was a student for over three years now.*

Answer

TENSE
in English Grammar:

Option B

DEFINITION

TYPES

	PAST		FUTURE
Simple	<p>I ate</p> <p>past action</p> <p>I ate at lunchtime</p> <p>past habit / repeated action</p> <p>I played the violin when I was young</p>		<p>I will eat</p> <p>future action</p> <p>I will eat at lunchtime</p>
Continuous	<p>I was eating</p> <p>on-going past action (if interrupted past simple follows)</p> <p>I was eating when she arrived</p> <p>parallel actions</p> <p>I was writing while she was dictating</p>		<p>I will be eating</p> <p>on-going future action</p> <p>(if interrupted present simple tense follows)</p> <p>I will be eating lunch when she arrives</p>
Perfect	<p>I had eaten</p> <p>completed past action before 2nd past action (in past simple)</p> <p>I had eaten before she arrived</p> <p>duration of completed action</p> <p>I had waited for 2 hours before he arrived</p>		<p>I will have eaten</p> <p>completed future action before a 2nd action</p> <p>(2nd verb in the present simple tense)</p> <p>I will have eaten lunch when she arrives</p>
Perfect Continuous	<p>I had been eating</p> <p>interrupted on-going past action (past simple follows)</p> <p>I had been eating when she arrived</p>		<p>I will have been eating</p> <p>duration measured at a time in the future</p> <p>I will have been eating for 10 minutes</p>

Tense and Aspect

Structure

FUTURE TENSE

SIMPLE FUTURE

am/is/are+going to+verb

will + verb

She will eat.

We are not going to eat.

Are you going to eat?

He will cook tomorrow.

FUTURE CONTINUOUS

will+be+verb+ing

She will be eating

We will not be eating.

Will you be eating?

He will be cooking.

FUTURE PERFECT

will+have+past participle

She will have eaten.

We will not have eaten.

Will you have eaten?

He will have cooked dinner.

FUTURE PERFECT CONTINUOUS

will+have+been+verb+ ing

She will have been eating.

We won't have been eating.

Will you have been eating?

He will have been cooking all day.

TYPES

POLL QUESTION

Let's go to the beach tomorrow! I think it ... sunny.

A will be

B won't be

Answer

Option A

Simple Future

The Future Simple tense is often called the "will tense" because we make the Future Simple with the modal auxiliary will.

<i>subject</i>	<i>auxiliary (will)</i>	<i>main verb</i>
	<i>will</i>	<i>V₁</i>

A. **All of a sudden decision:**

Example : We **will** see what we can do to help you.

B. with the verb to **think** before it:

Example : I **think** i **will** go to the gym tomorrow.

C. To make a **prediction**.

Example : It **will** rain tomorrow.

D. When the main verb is '**be**' and **we have a firm plan or decision before speaking**.

Example : I **will be** in London tomorrow.

E. We use 'going to ' to express plans and intentions

Structure: subject + is/am/are going to+ verb (base)

Example : We **are going to** buy a car.

F. Used for **future facts** and **polite request**.

Example : The snow **will** melt in summer.

Simple Future Tense



Functions of the simple future tense. The simple future refers to a time later than now, and expresses facts or certainty.

POLL QUESTION

One feels that there any noticeable improvement in the human rights problem in Africa until all the African countries their economic difficulties.

- A cannot be / will overcome*
- B hasn't been / had overcome*
- C won't be / overcome*
- D wouldn't be / would be overcome*

Answer

TENSE
in English Grammar:

Option C

DEFINITION

TYPES

Future Continuous

The Future Continuous tense is often used in English as a way to talk about something happening at a given point in the future.

<i>subject</i>	<i>auxiliary verb WILL</i>	<i>auxiliary verb BE</i>	<i>main verb</i>
	<i>will</i>	<i>be</i>	<i>base + ing</i>

Future Continuous Tense



I *will be staying*
here until Sunday.

The postman *will
be coming* soon.

POLL QUESTION

*As I told you yesterday, the undersecretary
over this afternoon's discussions*

- A was presiding*
- B will be presiding*
- C had presided*
- D has presided*

Answer

Option B

FUTURE PERFECT

The future perfect is a verb tense used for actions that will be completed before some other point in the future.

Structure :

<i>subject</i>	<i>auxiliary verb WILL</i>	<i>auxiliary verb HAVE</i>	<i>main verb</i>
	<i>will</i>	<i>have</i>	<i>V₃</i>

The Future Perfect Tense



By the time
you read this
I **will have slept**.



I am not going to
have finished this
book by 11 o'clock.

POLL QUESTION

*We ____ our work in the garden by the time he ____
from the pharmacist*

- A will have finished / arrives*
- B will finish / will arrive*
- C will be finishing / arrived*
- D finished / has arrived*

Answer

Option A

FUTURE PERFECT CONTINUOUS

The future perfect continuous, also sometimes called the future perfect progressive, is a verb tense that describes actions that will continue up until a point in the future.

*The future perfect continuous consists of:
will + have + been + the verb's present
participle (verb root + -ing).*

Future Perfect Continuous

By the end of November,
Jack **will have been studying**
at the
university for
four years.



POLL QUESTION

It seems likely that by the end of the week, the costs involved in the construction of the bridge by the Ministry.

- A would have been announced*
- B have been announced*
- C would be announced*
- D will have been announced*

Answer

Option D

POLL QUESTION

When I went back to my hometown three years ago, I found that a lot of changes -----.

- A. had taken place*
- B. have taken place*
- C. are taken place*
- D. were taken place*

Answer

Option A

*Let's Revise
Quickly*

ASPECT		SIMPLE	PROGRESSIVE	PERFECT	PERFECT PROGRESSIVE
MEANING		a common aspect	a process	priority	priority + process
		When?	At what time?	By what time?	Since what time? How long?
Period of time		usually, often, always, seldom, every day (week, month, year)	now, at the moment	ever, never, just, already, nor...yet, by 3p.m.	since 3p.m., for a long lime, for a month...
Present	+	V, Vs	am is + Ving are	have + Ved, V3 has	have + been + Ving has
	?	do, does... V	inversion	inversion	inversion
	-	do, does + not + V	am, is, are + not + Ving	have, has + not + Ved, V3	have, has + not + been + Ving
Period of time		yesterday, last week (month, year), long ago	yesterday at 3p.m., yesterday from 6 till 7, when you came...	yesterday by 3p.m., before some time in the past...	yesterday since 3p.m., for some time in the past
Past	+	Ved, V2	was + Ving were	had + Ved, V3	had + been + Ving
	?	did... V	inversion	inversion	inversion
	-	did + not + V	was, were + not + Ving	had + not + Ved, V3	had + not + been + Ving
Period of time		tomorrow, next week (month, year)	tomorrow at 3p.m., tomorrow from 6 till 7, when you come	tomorrow by 3p.m., by some time in the future	tomorrow since 3p.m. ,for some time in the future
Future	+	will + V	will + be + Ving	will + have + Ved, V3	will + have + been + Ving
	?	inversion	inversion	inversion	inversion
	-	won't + V	won't + be + Ving	won't + have + Ved, V3	won't + have + been + Ving

POLL QUESTION

What for breakfast?

- a. do usually you have*
- b. have you usually*
- c. do you usually have*
- d. are you usually having*

Answer

TENSE
in English Grammar:

Option C

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