

Week 10: Quiz questions and model answers

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Introductory message: This quiz covers the material in K ch. 21, except 21.4.2 and 21.5. This chapter delves deeper into tense.

1. Match each term to the appropriate definition. (each correct match 1 point)

Term

- (a) Tense
- (b) Aspect

Definition

- (a) indicates a temporal relation between Topic Time and Time of Utterance
- (b) indicates a temporal relation between Topic Time and Time of Situation

Model answer The correct answers are "tense indicates a temporal relation between Topic Time and Time of Utterance" and "aspect indicates a temporal relation between Topic Time and Time of Situation".

2. Match the term to the appropriate definition. (each correct match 1 point)

Term

- (a) Past tense
- (b) Present tense
- (c) Future tense

Definition

- (a) Topic Time is prior to Time of Utterance
- (b) Time of Utterance is prior to Topic Time
- (c) Time of Utterance is contained within Topic Time.

Model answer The correct answers are past tense (a), present tense (b) and future tense (c).

3. Which sentence contains the verb *play* in the simple present tense form? (1 point)

- (a) John is playing.
- (b) John plays.

Model answer The correct answer is (b). The verb in (a) is in present progressive form.

4. In which sentence does the verb indicate that the time of utterance is contained within topic time? (2 points)

- (a) John is playing soccer.
- (b) John plays soccer.

Model answer The correct answer is (a). The use of present progressive indicates that John is playing at the time of the utterance. The verb in (b) has a habitual reading.

5. Which generalization is true about the English present tense? (2 points)

- (a) Only states may be described using the simple present tense form of the verb to indicate that TU is contained within TT.
- (b) Only events may be described using the simple present tense form of the verb to indicate that TU is contained within TT.

Model answer The correct answer is (a). Events in simple present tense can give rise to habitual readings. For example, the verb *play* is an eventive verb (you can use the diagnostics you learned last week to make sure). Event verb used in simple as in *John plays soccer*, it indicates that John plays soccer regularly.

6. What is the topic time of the bolded verb in the sentence *When I got home from the hospital, my wife **wrote** a letter to my doctor?* (3 points)

- (a) now
- (b) after with the event described in the temporal clause introduced by when
- (c) overlapping with the event described in the temporal clause introduced by when

Model answer The correct answer is (b).

7. What is TSit of the bolded verb in the sentence *When I got home from the hospital, my wife **was writing** a letter to my doctor?* (3 points)

- (a) now
- (b) after with the event described in the temporal clause introduced by when
- (c) overlapping with the event described in the temporal clause introduced by when

Model answer The correct answer is (c). The use of progressive aspect indicates that the situation which is being described is contained within the topic time.

8. **What is the tense?** Which of the following sentences feature a past tense finite verb? Select all that apply.

- (a) I was hungry. (1pt selected / -1pt unselected)
- (b) Kim has slept in a tent. (-1pt selected / 1pt unselected)
- (c) Cameron was going to fly to France tomorrow. (1pt selected / -1pt unselected)
- (d) Taylor had beat the odds. (1pt selected / -1pt unselected)

(e) Sam bit the dog. (1pt selected / -1pt unselected)

Model answer: The finite verbs in (a), (c), (d) and (e) are past tense: *was*, *was*, *had* and *bit*. The finite verb in (b) is present tense: *has*. If you selected (b), be careful to distinguish tense and aspect: the situation of Kim sleeping in a tent is located in the past of the utterance time, but this is not due to the tense but due to the perfect aspect.