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- Rule #8 -

➤ Verb Tenses

Verbs have three tenses: past, present and future.

The past tense describes things that have already happened e.g., earlier today, yesterday, last week, or three years ago.

The present tense describes things that are happening or in progress.

The future tense describes things that have not yet happened e.g., later, tomorrow, next week, next year, in three years.

Present Tense

The present tense describes things that are happening or are in progress.

They are further divided into the following tenses:

1. Simple Present: _____

We use the present simple when an action occurs or when it happens regularly or constantly, which is why it is sometimes called the present indefinite. Depending on the person, the present simple is formed by using the root form or by adding -s or -es to the end.

Examples:

- I live in Melbourne
- I love my home

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- I miss my mother

2. Present Continuous:

The verb in the present tense indicates that an action or condition takes place now, often, and possibly in the future.

To write a sentence in the present continuous tense, you need to add subject [am, is, are] + verb [present participle]

Examples:

- I am living in Melbourne.
- They are coming early.

3. Present Perfect:

The present perfect is one of the common verb forms in English, used to indicate an action that took place in the past and is directly related to the present, e.g., B. Actions in progress or indicating a change over time.

Don't let the name confuse you - although the word present is present, present perfect deals with actions that took place or began in the past. In fact, the present perfect is often used interchangeably with the past simple, although there are some specific situations where you can only use one or the other.

In the present perfect, the main verbs always use the auxiliary verbs (auxiliary verbs) has or have. The main verb takes a participle form, especially the past participle. The past participle often has the same form as the past tense of the verb, unless it is an irregular verb, each having its own participle form.

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Examples:

- I have studied accounting.
- He has prepared well for the interview.
- Have you eaten dinner yet?
- It has been raining all day.

Like all continuous tenses, the present perfect continuous tense cannot be used with stative verbs like want, need, love, or hate.

4. Present Perfect Continuous:

Present perfect continuous shows that something started in the past and continues in the present. The present perfect continuous is formed with the Subject has/have been + the present participle (root + -ing).

Examples:

- I have been studying English for a month.
- My Mother has been taking care of the home for 20 years now.

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