

## **Introduction:**

*In the English language, the word ‘tense’ is used to denote a characteristic of the verb in a sentence. The tense of a verb is used to depict the particular time in which a specific event is taking place.*

## **Definition of Tense**

*According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionary, the term ‘tense’ is defined as “any of the forms of a verb that may be used to show the time of the action or state expressed by the verb.” The Merriam-Webster Dictionary provides a slightly different definition. According to it, the word ‘tense’ is defined as “a distinction of form in a verb to express distinctions of time or duration of the action or state it denotes.”*

## **How Important Is It to Know about Tenses?**

*Tenses are often considered to be the backbone and the most fundamental element of the English language. Without tense, everything seems to be absurd. Tenses help you describe actions that take place at different times. It helps to give clarity to your context and the information you are trying to convey. It also allows you to build complex sentence structures. So, if you want to be able to convey information clearly and promptly, you should know all the twelve tenses and how they are used.*

## **Different Tenses in English**

*In English grammar, there are three main tenses, and they are each further classified into four different forms, which sum up to twelve tenses in total. The three tenses in English are:*

*Present Tense*

*Past Tense*

*Future Tense*

***The four different forms are:***

*Simple Tense Form*

*Continuous Tense Form*

*Perfect Tense Form*

*Perfect Continuous Tense Form*

*So,*

***the twelve tenses in English are as follows:***

*Simple Present Tense*

*Present Continuous Tense*

*Present Perfect Tense*

*Present Perfect Continuous Tense*

*Simple Past Tense*

*Past Continuous Tense*

*Past Perfect Tense*

*Past Perfect Continuous Tense*

*Simple Future Tense*

*Future Continuous Tense*

*Future Perfect Tense*

*Future Perfect Continuous Tense*

### ***Present Tense Rules***

*The present tense is used to describe the current or present being, situation, or event. It is a form of the verb that defines the events that are currently happening. Examples*

*I am going to the office*

*She has been part of this group for 4 years now.*

*The concert is amazing.*

*Simple Present Tense Rules*

*Subject + V1 + s/es + Object (Singular)*

*Subject + V1 + Object (Plural)*

### ***Examples:***

*The Sun rises in the East.*

*Mariam goes to school.*

*Present Continuous Tense Rules*

*Subject + is/am/are + V1 + ing + object*

### **Examples:**

*I am eating pudding.*

*Sia is writing a letter to the editor.*

### **Present Perfect Tense Rules**

*Subject + has + V3 + Object (Singular)*

*Subject + have + V3 + Object (Plural)*

### **Examples:**

*He has just eaten food.*

*I have just read the book.*

### **Present Perfect Continuous Tense Rules**

*Subject + has been + V1 + ing + Object (Singular)*

*Subject + have been + V1 + ing + Object (Plural)*

### **Examples:**

*I have been cleaning regularly since Monday.*

*She has been using the night cream for several months.*

### **Past Tense Rules**

*Past tense is used to describe a past activity or action. It is a form of the verb that defines the events that have already occurred. Examples*

*Musa attended the wedding functions.*

*He left before I reached.*

*Fanta wrote a letter to her friends from camp.*

### *Simple Past Tense Rules*

*Subject + V2 + Object*

*Examples:*

*Mariam went to school.*

*Fode ate food.*

### ***Past Continuous Tense Rules***

*Subject + was + V1 + ing + Object (Singular) Subject + were + V1 + ing + Object (Plural)*

*Examples:*

*I was eating pudding.*

*Barry was writing a letter to the editor.*

### *Past Perfect Tense Rules*

*Subject + had + V3 + Object*

*Examples:*

*He had taken the token.*

*I had brushed my teeth.*

### **Past Perfect Continuous Tense Rules**

*Subject + had been + V1 + ing + Object*

*Examples:*

*He had been standing in the rain the whole night.*

*I had been eating diet food for the whole summer.*

### **Tenses Rules**

*Tense can be defined as a word form used to indicate the time of occurrence of an incident concerning the moment of speaking. It indicates the completion or continuance of an activity. Whether you are a school student or someone preparing for competitive examinations or any other*

### **Tenses Rules Chart**

*Understanding the rules of tenses is essential to avoid grammatical errors and indicate the timing of events or actions in a sentence. It is crucial for aspirants applying for Government exams in 2023 to study these rules carefully, as English is a crucial component of the exam syllabus. Tenses can be categorized into three main types: Present, Past, and Future, which can be further classified into Simple, Continuous, Perfect, and Perfect Continuous.*

## ***Tenses Rules Chart***

*In most competitive & government exams, tenses are one of the vital parts of the English section. Applicants can score perfectly if they are aware of the tenses rules & avoid mistakes. To memorize & understand the Tenses rules here is a tabulated representation.*

### ***Tenses Rule***

*Past simple tense Subject + V2 + Object*

*Past Perfect tense Subject + had + V3 + Object*

*Past Continuous tense Subject + was + V1 + ing + Object (Singular)*

*Subject + were + V1 + ing + Object (Plural)*

*Past perfect continuous tense Subject + had been + V1 + ing + Object*

*Present Simple tense Subject + V1 + s/es + Object (Singular) Subject + V1 + Object (Plural)*

*Present Perfect tense Subject + has + V3 + Object (Singular) Subject + have + V3 + Object (Plural)*

*Present Continuous tense Subject + is/am/are + V1 + ing + object*

*Present perfect continuous tense Subject + has been + V1 + ing + Object (Singular) Subject + have been + V1 + ing + Object (Plural)*

*Future Simple tense Subject + will/shall + V1 + Object*

*Future Perfect tense Subject + will have/shall have + V3 + Object*

*Future Continuous tense Subject + will be/shall be + ing + V1 + Object*

*Future Perfect Continuous tense Subject + will have been + V1 + ing +*

*Object*

*V1 = first form of the verb*

*V2 = second form of the verb*

*V3 = third form of the verb*

*We will now discuss each category with different types of tenses, the tenses rule, and their examples.*

***There are basic three types of tenses.***

*Past*

*Present*

*Future*

*These tenses can further be categorized into 4 types:*

*Simple Tense*

*Continuous Tense*

*Perfect Tense*

*Perfect Continuous Tense*

*Past Tense Rules*

*Past tense is used to describe a past activity or action. It is a form of the verb that defines the events that have already occurred. Examples*

*Assatou attended the wedding functions.*

*He left before I reached.*



*Barry wrote a letter to her friends from camp.*

### *Simple Past Tense Rules*

*Subject + V2 + Object*

*Examples:*

*Umar went to school.*

*Musa ate food.*

### ***Past Continuous Tense Rules***

*Subject + was + V1 + ing + Object (Singular) Subject + were + V1 + ing + Object (Plural)*

*Examples:*

*I was eating pudding.*

*Sia was writing a letter to the editor.*

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*Examples:*

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## **Present Continuous Tense Rules**

*Subject + is/am/are + V1 + ing + object*

*Examples:*

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*Sia is writing a letter to the editor.*

### ***Present Perfect Tense Rules***

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*Examples:*

*He has just eaten food.*

*I have just read the book.*

### ***Present Perfect Continuous Tense Rules***

*Subject + has been + V1 + ing + Object (Singular)*

*Subject + have been + V1 + ing + Object (Plural)*

*Examples:*

*I have been cleaning regularly since Monday.*

*She has been using the night cream for several months.*

### ***Future Tense Rules***

*The future tense is used to describe future events that haven't occurred*

*but possibly will occur in the future. It is a form of the verb that will occur in the future & not exist currently.*

*Examples*

*She will be dancing to classical music.*

*We will be shifting to the house upstate tomorrow morning.*

*The train will leave in 10 minutes.*

### ***Simple Future Tense Rules***

*Subject + will/shall + V1 + Object*

*Examples:*

*I shall go to school tomorrow.*

*My mother will feed me.*

### ***Future Continuous Tense Rules***

*Subject + will be/shall be + ing + V1 + Object*

*Examples:*

*He shall be writing his exam.*

*We will be going to the zoo.*

### ***Future Perfect Tense Rules***

*Subject + will have/shall have + V3 + Object*

*Examples:*

*I shall have started writing by that time.*

*We will have reached Goa by then.*

### ***Future Perfect Continuous Tense Rules***

*Subject + will have been + V1 + ing + Object*

*Examples:*

*By next year we will be graduating.*

*They shall be serving food in the slum area tomorrow.*