

E-Content Lesson on Tense

Definition-Tense is the form of a verb which shows the time of an action and its degree of completeness.

KINDS OF TENSES

The word Tense means Time. There are three tenses – Present, Past, and Future.

The Present Tense indicates that the action is done at the present time; as,

Examples:

I see an aero plane in the sky.

Seeta reads a book.

Ram writes a letter.

He solves sums .

The earth revolves around the sun. (Universal Truth)

The sun rises in the East , sets in the West. (Universal Truth)

He takes exercise daily. (Habit)

Note: Universal Truth and Habit can be expressed in Present Simple Tense in some cases.

The Past Tense indicates that the action was done in the past time; as,

Examples:

I saw an aero plane in the sky.

Seeta read a book.

Ram wrote a letter.

He solved sums.

The Future Tense indicates that action will be done in the Future time; as,

Examples:

I shall see an aero plane in the sky.

Seeta will read a book.

Ram will write a letter.

He will solve sums.

Each of the three main tenses has four forms:

Simple (Indefinite): It simply states an action.

Continuous : It indicates that the action is incomplete.

Perfect : It indicates that the action is complete.

Perfect Continuous: It shows that the action has been continuous.

THE USES OF THE TENSES

The **Simple Present** is used:

To express in simple way at the present moment; as,

Examples:

She *sings* a song.

He *reads* a novel.

Ravi *goes* to school.

To express universal Truth; as,

Examples:

The Sun shines.

Two and two *make* four.

To express habitual fact; as,

Examples:

He goes out for a walk every morning

We play football in the evening.

To express a future action; as,

Examples:

The college closes on the 17th.(will close)

We leave for Jammu on Monday. (Shall leave)

The **Present Continuous Tense** indicates an action going on at the time of speaking; as,

Examples:

We are doing our work.

She is reading a book in the library.

He is listening to me.

They are watching a movie.

The children are playing.

Note: It is used for conveying an action relating to the near future; as,

Examples:

The prime Minister Sh Narendra Modi is addressing the nation tomorrow on Covid 19.

My friend is visiting Jammu next month.

The Train is arriving within hour.

The Present Perfect Tense denotes an action completed at the time of speaking: as,

Examples:

Ravi has *turned* up.

Ram has *worked* out the sum.

They have *completed* their work.

We have *taken* our breakfast.

Seeta has *solved* sums.

Note: It is also used to represent a past action that continues up to the present moment; as,

Examples:

She has *learnt* English for a year. (He is still learning)

I have *lived* here for four years.

She *lived* here for three years.

The **Present Perfect Continuous Tense:** It is used to indicate an action which began in the past and is still going on; as,

Examples:

Geeta has been waiting for her friend since Monday.

She has been working in this factory for ten years.

My friend has been ill for a week.

They have been playing a match for a long time.

Ravi has been living in Delhi since 2020.

The **Simple Past Tense** is used to denote an action in the past; as,

Examples:

She wrote a letter to Rama.

His sister died of cancer.

Raj sang a song.

Ravi solved sums.

The **past Continuous Tense** is used to denote an action that was going on at some time in the past; as,

Examples:

My teacher was teaching a lesson.

She was reading a book in library.

While I was eating, he was talking.

He was having his breakfast when I called on him.

The **past perfect Tense** is used to denote an action which had been completed before another action was begun; as,

Examples:

I had completed my work.

She had solved her sums.

They had taken their lunch.

Ravi had never seen that play before.

Geeta had not met her since her marriage.

Ram had not left for Delhi till yesterday.

The **past perfect Continuous Tense** is used to denote an action that had been going on at , or before before , some point of time in the past ; as,

Examples:

He had been reading for three hours before he went to bed.

His father had been ill for a week when he consulted a doctor.

They had been playing for an hour.

My friend had been living in London since 2019.

The **Future Indefinite (Simple) Tense** is used to express an action in future ; as,

Examples:

I shall work hard.

We shall write to them next week.

They will play a football match on Monday.

He will read a book.

The **Future Continuous Tense** is used to express an action as going on at some point in future time ; as,

Examples:

I shall be working hard.

We shall be writing to them next week.

They will be playing a football match on Monday.

He will be reading a book.

The **Future Perfect Tense** denotes an action will be completed at some point in future time; as,

Examples:

I shall have worked hard.

We shall have written to them next week.

They will have played a football match on Monday.

He will have read a book.

I shall have completed my work

The **Future Perfect Continuous Tense is used to** denote an action that will going on at, or before, at some point of time in the future; as,

Examples:

I shall have been working hard for a long time

We shall have been writing since morning

They will have been playing a football match for two hour.

He will have been reading a book in library since 9'clock.

I shall have been ill for a week.

Note: We have to keep in our mind regarding conditional sentences in order to understand tenses.

Examples:

If you lend me money, I shall go to Jammu.

If I go to Delhi, I shall bring a watch for you.

Unless you put in hard work, you will not pass your exam.

If he is dishonest, he is not reliable.

If I were rich, I would buy a car.