

1.3. Grammar.

TENSES

A verb indicated action, condition or process. The term ‘tense’ is used to refer to different forms of the verb indicating time of action. Only a person, having a good understanding of tense will be able to write and speak correctly without any ambiguity. Those who do not stick to a particular structure for a particular purpose, may intend to say something, but it may be interpreted the other way. This brings out the fact that it is mandatory to have a clear concept about the use of different tense structures for different purposes of time and action.

The following table shows the different forms of the verb in various tenses.

Tense	Simple	Continuous	Perfect	Perfect continuous
Present	write/s	am/is/are/writing	has/have/written	has/have been writing
Past	Wrote	was/werewriting	had written	had writing
Future	shall/will write	shall/willwriting	will written	will have been writing

be' forms: am, is , are

SIMPLE PRESENT

USAGE

EXAMPLE

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. For habitual action. | He goes to temple daily. |
| 2. To express general facts. | Magnet attracts iron. |
| 3. To convey the near future. | The plane arrives at 9AM. |
| 4. For professional activities. | The cobbler makes shoes. |
| 5. To express ownership. | This house belongs to me. |
| 6. Used in probable condition | If you work hard, you will get distinction. |
| 7. To denote permanent situation | This road leads to Nagercoil. |

Keywords: usually, generally, commonly, rarely, occasionally, frequently, always, daily, often, every day, every month, every year, once a month, on Mondays, etc.

S+ am/is/are +v+ being

Sample:-

1. I get up late on holidays.
2. Rivers mix with Sea.
3. The Sun rises in the East.
4. Here comes our leader
5. Oh! the bird chirps nice!
6. The match starts at 9 am tomorrow.
7. I will wait for you till you arrive at the spot.
8. Here runs the captain.
9. When does the bakery reopen next month?
10. Sita leaves the place as soon as she sees him.

Exercises

Fill in the blanks with the simple present tense form of the suitable verb:

1. Mother ----- lots of work every day.
2. My friend Radhika ----- to be a famous writer.
3. The students -----simple present tense.

4. Rahul ----- (aspire) to be a rocket scientist.
5. My sister ----- (write) very well.
6. Raju ----- exercises every day.
7. Dogs ----- cats.
8. My friends ----- (cook) delicious meals.
9. The rabbit ----- (runs) fast.
10. She ----- Dress code on all 365 days.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

USAGE

EXAMPLE

1. To express action at the time of speaking.
2. An activity that takes place this week, this month of this year.

I am watching a movie now.
I am preparing for my exams.

2. To express future arrangements

He is going to the states next summer.

Keywords: now, at present, at the moment.

Example: -

1. I see your writing.
2. I feel tired.
3. The students are reading this line.
4. I am singing songs for movies.
5. We are going to beach today evening.
6. I am reading religious texts.
7. He is working out grammar exercises.
8. You are reading this line.
9. My uncle is arriving tonight by flight.
10. He is always biting his nails inspite of several remarks.

PRESENT PERFECT

S+ has/have +been +p.p

USAGE

1. To denote actions just completed.
2. Action that began in the past and continuing till now.
3. Completed actions which have 'current' relevance
4. Activity/experience in the past

EXAMPLE

He has finished the work.

I have worked here for 8
Years.

I have written four novels.

I have been to Bangalore several

Times.

Key words: just, just now, already, just before, already, ever, never

Example: -

1. I had gone for a walk in the morning.
2. The movie had begun by the time I reached. I have never raised any demand.
3. We have bought vegetables from the market.
4. John has broken his leg.
5. The deliveryman has delivered the parcel already.

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

S + has/ have +been +v +ing

USAGE

Indicates the duration of an action that began in the past and continue in the present.

EXAMPLE

My friend has been doing this work for 2 hours.

Why do you look tired? I have been running.

Exercises:-

1. Change the following passage into present continuous tense by changing the verb forms:

I get up at 6 o' clock to complete my tasks on time. First of all, I perform ablution (washing oneself) and brush my teeth. Then I offer my Fajr prayer which makes my whole day quite blessed and brings ease to my every activity. My mom prepares the breakfast, Italian brunch torte while I get ready for school. Once the breakfast is ready. I take the breakfast and leave for school. I go to school by tram.

2. Change the following passage into present continuous tense by changing the verb forms:

It is said that life is a game. Hari Raman decided that he would play it his way even when he was dealt a bad hand. He was born to agricultural workers in Villupuram. He defied all odds to become a doctor. He used his passion for gaming to pave the path to his dream profession. Today, 25-year-old doctor and gaming enthusiast dishes out medical advice and pro tips for gamers with equal ease on his You Tube channel which has 20.4 lakh subscribers.

