

1.5. MIXED TENSE

MIXED 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/were writing	had written	had been writing

Future	shall/will write	shall/will writing	be	will written	have been writing	will have
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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
distinction. | If you work hard, you will get |
| 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

S+ am/is/are +v+ being

USAGE

EXAMPLE

1. To express action at the time of speaking. I am watching a movie now.
2. An activity that takes place this week, this month of this year. I am preparing for my exams.
3. To express future arrangements He is going to the states next summer.

Keywords: now, at present, at the moment

S+ has/have +been +p.p.v

PRESENT PERFECT

USAGE

EXAMPLE

1. To denote actions just completed. He has finished the work.
2. Action that began in the past and continuing till now. I have worked here for 8 years.

3. Completed actions which have 'current' relevance I have written four novels.
4. Activity/experience in the past I have been to Bangalore several times.

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

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

S + has/ have +been +v +ing

USAG

Indicates the duration of an action that has been doing this work for 2 hours. began in the past and continue in the present

EXAMPLE

My friend has

An action that began in the past and has been doing this work alone? You look just recently ended. tired.

Have you been

Keywords: yesterday, last week, last month, last year, recently, 1947 etc

FUTURE CONTINUOUS

USAGE

EXAMPLE

1. To express continuity of action at a particular time in the future
2. Next year this time I will be preparing to go abroad.

Keywords: this time tomorrow, this time next week, this time next year

FUTURE PERFECT

USAGE

EXAMPLE

1. An action that will be completed a particular time in future.

By this time next month, I will have finished before my examination.

Keywords: by, within

FUTURE PERFECT CONTINUOUS

USAGE

EXAMPLE

1. To express duration of time that occurred before a specific point of time in future.

By next November I will have been working in this company for 6 years

1. She has been waiting for friends _____ 10.0 a.m.
2. It flooded _____ December last year.
3. You have to wait _____ Monday for the O level examination results.
4. _____ the second world war, many people died.
5. Please wait for me _____ I come back from school.
6. You cannot enter the museum _____ 9 a.m.
7. The students have to do all the exercises _____ 3 hours.

Excercise Type II

1. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions:

Maharaj Sawar Singh II _____ Jaipur was passionately interested _____ Mathematics. He sought to create a gigantic observatory that was more accurate and permanent than the brass instrument _____ his day. He constructed five astronomical observator _____ India.

2. Fill in the blanks of the following sentences with suitable prepositions.

a) The fire bells sounded, workers immediately switched
__their machines and moved__ safer places.

b) The skilled worker carried out many operation _____ a
lathe
_____ his supervisor.

3. The thorium reserves can be used _____ fast breeder reactors.
A very small quantity ___ nuclear fuel produces energy that can
otherwise be produced _ vast quantities _____ conventional
fuesllike coal.

4. One of the important benefits _____ machine civilization is
that our standard of life they improved. There is much more
variety.

our lives. We have a wide choice of everything _____ wrist
watchesto flash lights. Food from any part of the world can be obtained-
any season of the year.

5. Although there is evidence to show that some from

_____ was
(i) _____ printing, _____
known _____ (ii) _____ ancient
times, it was printing ___ (iii) _____ movable type
that constituted a turning print _____ (iv) _____
_____ the development _____ (v) _____ printing. The
invention (vi)
_____ printing as we know it today is ascribed

_____ (vii) _____ Hohann Gutenberg (1440-68)

_____ (viii) _____ Strasbourg.

6. A team _____ European researchers coordinated _____ the university of Plymouth have invented a new device harnessing the power _____ the waves.
7. The water heated..... power plant is cooled two reasons, to comply thermal pollution regulations and to gain greatest efficiency. This will be useful.....environmental protection. (A.U 2010)
8. One of the banes.....contemporary civilization is T.V. viewing. Not enough attention has been paid..... its adverse effects..... young men, who remain glued to the screen.Hours

our lives. We have a wide choice of everything _____ wrist watches to flash lights.
 Food from any part of the world can be obtained _____
 any season of the year.

9. Although there is evidence to show that some from _____
 (i) _____ printing, was known _____ (ii) _____ ancient
 times, it was printing _____ (iii) _____ movable type that constituted
 a turning print _____ (iv) _____ the development
 _____ (v) _____ printing. The invention (vi)
 _____ printing as we know it today is ascribed _____ (vii)
 _____ Hohann Gutenberg (1440-68) _____
 (viii) _____ Strasbourg.

10. A team _____ European researchers coordinated _____ the university of
 Plymouth have invented a new device _____ harnessing the power
 the waves.

11. The water heated..... power plant is cooled two reasons, to
 comply thermal pollution regulations and to gain greatest efficiency.
 This will be useful..... environmental protection. (A.U 2010)

12. One of the banes..... contemporary civilization is T.V. viewing. Not enough
 attention has been paid..... its adverse effects..... young men,
 who remain glued to the screen.Hours