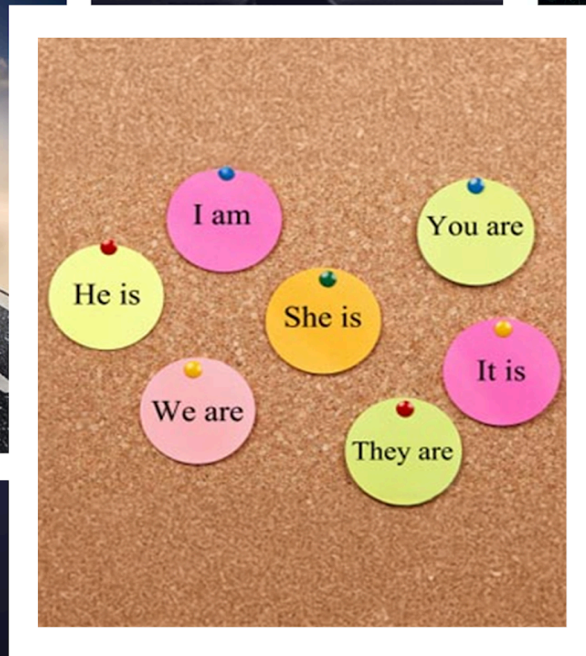


# English Grammar

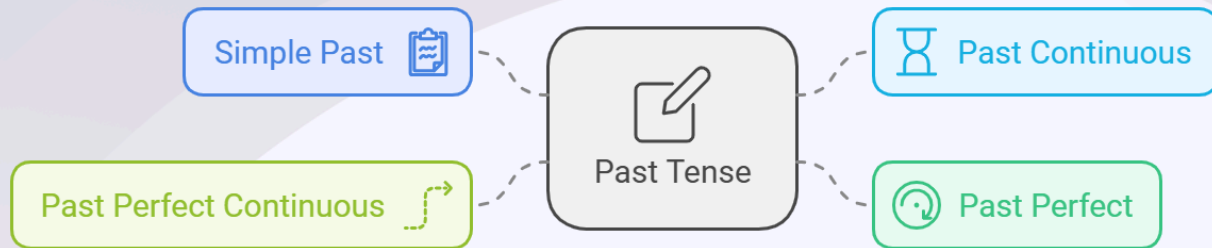
## STUDY NOTES

### Tense (II)



## 2. Past Tense

The past tense deals with actions that occurred previously. The four forms are:



### Simple Past

- **Structure:** Subject + V<sup>2</sup> + object

**Examples:**

She **read** the book yesterday. (V<sup>2</sup> of read is read)

They **went** to Goa.

- **Uses:**

i) The simple past tense is used to express an action that took place in the past.

**Examples:**

He **went** to Lucknow yesterday.

They **bought** a car.

ii) It is used for an action that happened during a period in the past.

**Examples:**

He **lived** in London from 2009 to 2017.

They **spent** their childhood in hostels.

iii) It is used for showing habitual actions in the past.

**Examples:**

The manager **went** for lunch.

Rahul **preferred** a cup of milk at bedtime.

iv) It is used in conditional sentences to express an improbable condition.

**Examples:**

If I **played** with him, I would win.

If I **had** money, I would buy a luxurious car.

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## Past Continuous

- **Structure:** Subject + was/were + verb + ing + object

**Example:**

She **was reading** a novel.

I **was going** to attend a meeting.

- **Uses:**

i) We use past continuous tense to express the gradual development of an action.

**Examples:**

It **was getting** darker.

He **was losing** his memory.

ii) It is used to explain an action in progress at a point in time in the past.

**Examples:**

She **was cooking** between 7 and 8 p.m.

Rashi **was attending** dance classes during June to December.

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## Past Perfect

- **Structure:** Subject + had + past participle + object

**Example:**

She **had read** the book.

We **had played** cricket.

- **Uses:**

i) It is used for an action which had been completed in the past before another action took place.

**Examples:**

The customer came after the shopkeeper **had closed** the shop.

The guest **had arrived** before we reached the station.

ii) It is used to express conditional sentences or unfulfilled wishes in the past.

I wish I **had bought** a guitar.

If my father **had given** me money, I would buy a guitar.

iii) It is used when we talk about an event that already took place at a specific time in the past.

Examples:

Children **had finished** their lunch by 1 p.m.

The players **had played** well on Monday.

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### Past Perfect Continuous

- **Structure:** Subject + had + been + verb + ing + object + since/for + time

**Examples:**

She **had been reading** for an hour.

Prashant **had been singing** a song since 2003.

- **Use:**

This tense is used to express an action which started in the past before a moment, continued till the moment and is still in progress at that moment of speaking or recently had been completed.

**Examples:**

They **had been playing** guitar for an hour.

We **had been practising** for the act since 22 September.