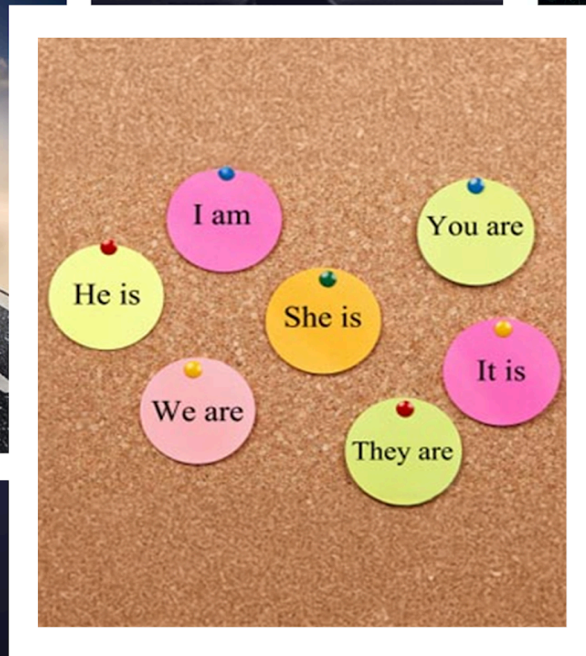


English Grammar

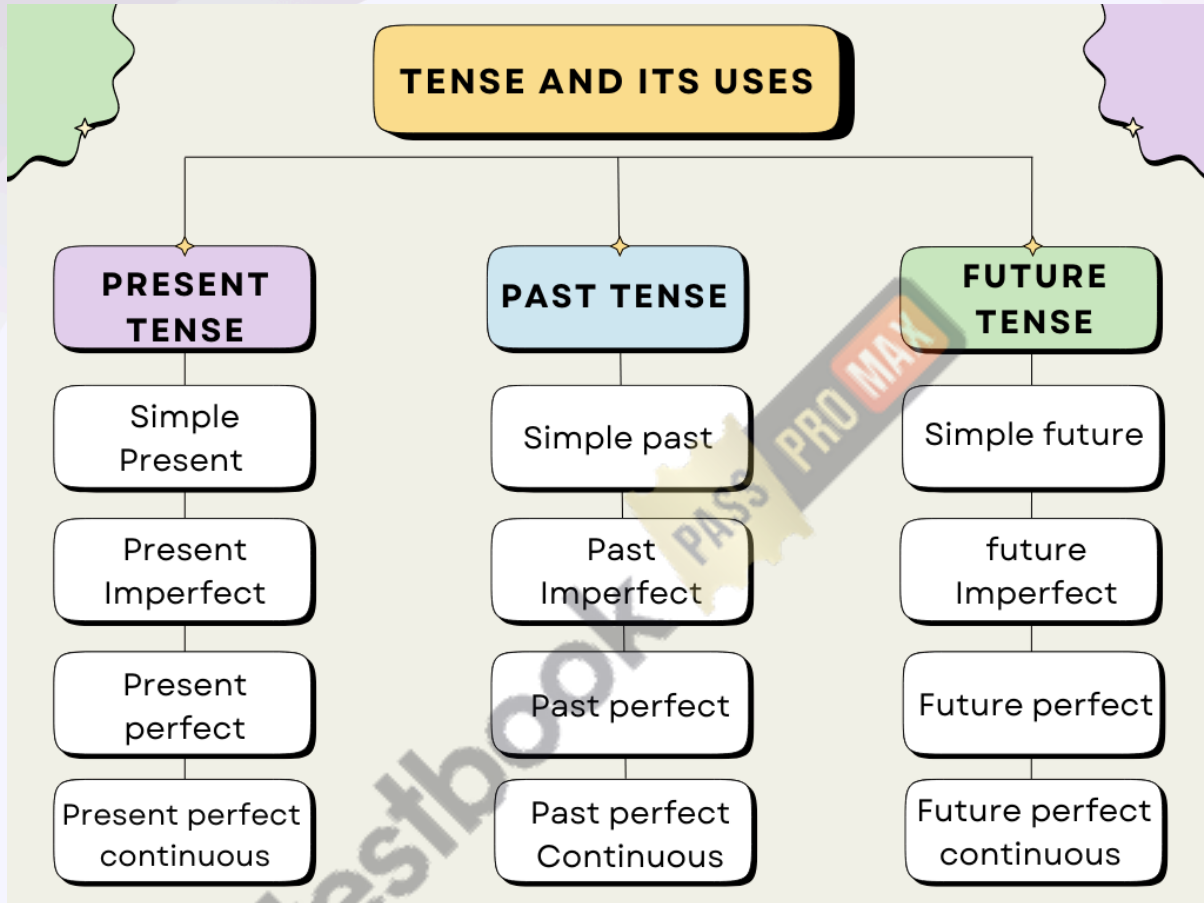
STUDY NOTES

Tense (I)



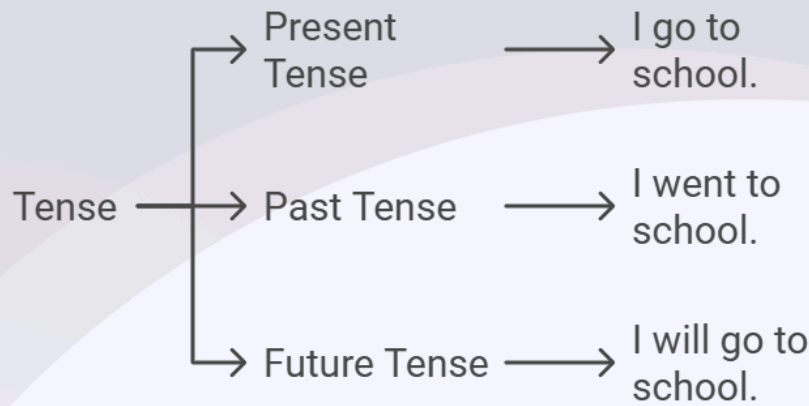
TENSES

WHAT WILL WE STUDY TODAY?



TENSE

Tense refers to the form of a verb that indicates the time of an action or event. In English, there are three main tenses, each with its variations:



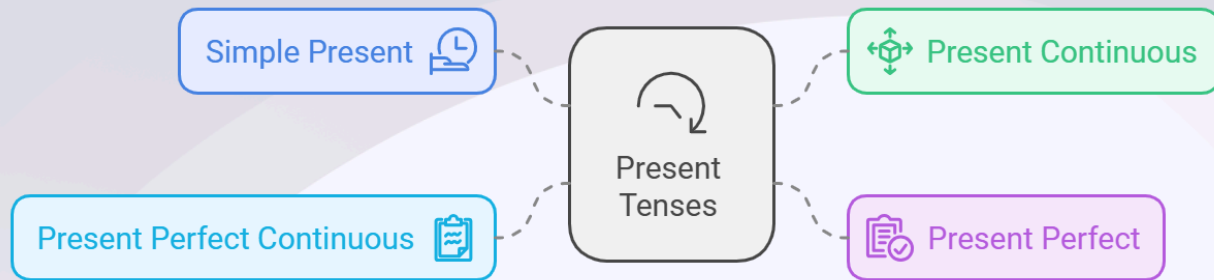
TYPES OF TENSE

Let's explore all tenses and their structures.

Present Tense	Past Tense	Future Tense
Present indefinite / Simple present	Past indefinite / Simple past	Future indefinite / Simple future
Present imperfect / Present continuous	Past imperfect / Past continuous	Future imperfect / Future continuous
Present perfect	Past perfect	Future perfect
Present perfect continuous	Past perfect continuous	Future perfect continuous

1. Present Tense

The present tense is used to describe actions happening now or regular activities. It has four forms:



Simple Present

- **Structure:** Subject + V¹/V^s (V^s for singular third-person) + object

Examples:

She **reads** every day.
You **read** a book.

- **Uses:**

i) We use this tense to express an event taking place at the present moment.

Examples:

- He **lives** in Delhi.
- They **study** in Mumbai.

ii) It is used to express a daily routine or a habit or custom.

Examples:

- My father **reads** the newspaper every morning.
- They **go** to the office.

iii) It is used for newspaper headlines.

Examples:

- India **defeats** Pakistan by two wickets.
- Fog **disrupts** several flights.

iv) It is used in imperative sentences to express a command, request or advice.

Examples:

- Don't **run** so fast.

- Carefully **read** the rules.

v) It is used in conditional clauses (if clauses) when the verb in the main clause is in future tense.

Examples:

- If you **run** fast, you will win the race.
- If they **prepare** well, they will pass the exam.

vi) It is used in proverbs and sayings which refer to permanent truths.

Examples:

- Time and tide **wait** for none.
- Slow and steady **wins** the race.

Present Continuous

- **Structure:** Subject + is/am/are + verb + ing + object

Examples:

- She **is reading** right now.
- They **are painting** a house.

- **Uses:**

i) We use the present continuous tense to express an action which is going on at that time of speaking.

Examples:

- Sushil **is making** tea now.
- They **are watching** television.

ii) It is used to express an action taking place in present time but not necessarily at the present moment.

Examples:

She **is learning** driving nowadays.

They **are working** on a secret project.

iii) It is used to show an action which seems to happen in the near future.

Examples:

We **are going** to Delhi tomorrow.

They **are leaving** for Mumbai on next Sunday.

NOTE: The main difference between Simple present tense and Present continuous tense is that **simple present tense** is used for habitual actions and states, while **present continuous tense** is used for actions in progress at the time of speaking.

Present Perfect

- **Structure:** Subject + has/have + past participle (V³) + object

Example: She **has read** the book.

They **have eaten** their lunch.

- **Uses:**

i) We use present perfect tense to denote an action which has just been completed.

Examples:

He **has just completed** the work.

They **have gone** just now.

ii) It is used to express an action which started in the past and continues till the time of speaking.

Examples:

We **have waited** for you for a month.

They **have been** here for two days.

iii) It is used in the **if** or **when clause** when the main clause refers to the future.

Examples:

If they **have arrived**, we shall start the party.

If you **have completed** the homework, I will give you a bonus.

Present Perfect Continuous

- **Structure:** Subject + has/have + been + verb + ing + object + Since/for + time

NOTE: **Since** is used for actions of definite time (at the point of time), while **For** is used for actions of indefinite time (at the period of time)

Examples:

She **has been reading** for two hours. (Period of time)

They **have been playing** chess since 11 o'clock. (Point of time)

You **have been living** in Kolkata since 2010. (Point of time)

- **Uses:**

i) It is used to express an action which starts in the past, is in progress at the time of speaking and will extend into the future.

Examples:

Reema **has been sleeping** for two hours.

It **has been raining** since Monday.

I **have been singing** since 2005.

ii) This tense is used to express an action in a sentence which starts with “**for how long**” or “**since when**”.

Examples:

For how long **has Nita been complaining** about headache?

Since when **have the students been waiting** for the teacher?

For how long **have they been singing** on the stage?

NOTE: The main difference between present continuous tense and present perfect continuous tense is that **present continuous tense** is used for action going on but time is not mentioned, while **present perfect continuous tense** is used for actions in progress and also mentions the time of action.