

Tenses Exercises with Answers



Tenses exercises with answers

Chapter 1: Introducing Tenses and Why They Matter

Hello there! Welcome to the exciting world of words and sentences. Today, we are going to learn about something very important in the way we speak and write — tenses. Think of tenses as magic tools that tell us when something happens. Are you ready? Let's go!

Imagine you have a big box of crayons. Each crayon has a different color, and each color helps you draw pictures of different times. One crayon might be for drawing things that are happening now, another for things that already happened, and another for things that will happen soon. Tenses are just like those crayons—they help us show when something takes place.

Why are tenses so important? Well, if you want someone to understand your story clearly, you need to tell them when things happen. For example, if you say, "I play soccer," your friend might wonder—are you talking about now or in the past? If you say, "I played soccer," they know you did it yesterday or last week. If you say, "I will play soccer," they understand you are talking about the future.

Tenses help us speak and write in a way that others can understand easily. They make our stories clear and alive. Without tenses, our words can become confusing like a puzzle with missing pieces!

Let's think about a simple story. Imagine you want to tell your friend what you did yesterday, what you do every day, and what you will do tomorrow. You need different tenses to tell each part correctly:

- Yesterday, I went to the park. (Past tense)
- Every morning, I wake up early. (Present tense)
- Tomorrow, I will go shopping with my family. (Future tense)

See? Using the right tense helps everyone understand exactly what you're talking about.

Now, you might wonder, how many tenses are there? Well, in English, there are several, but don't worry! We'll learn about the main ones step by step. Our journey will start with understanding the most common tenses, so you can start using them confidently.

In this chapter and the ones ahead, we will explore each tense in a fun and simple way. You'll see how to use them with easy exercises and examples. By the end, you'll be a tense expert, telling stories that make perfect sense.

Remember, learning tenses is like learning how to tell time—once you understand, everything gets easier. You'll be able to describe your day, share fun stories, and even write sentences with confidence.

So, are you ready to become a language superstar? Let's begin our adventure into the world of tenses and make your words come alive!

Chapter 2: The Present Simple Tense

Hello, young learners! Now that you know a little about what tenses are and why we use them, it's time to explore one of the most important tenses: the Present Simple tense. This tense helps us talk about things that are true all the time, habits we have, and general facts about the world.

Imagine you wake up every morning, eat breakfast, go to school, and play with your friends. These are your daily routines, and they happen regularly. To tell someone about your routines, we use the Present Simple tense. Let's see how!

What is the Present Simple Tense?

The Present Simple tense is used for actions that happen repeatedly, things that are always or usually true, and habits or facts. For example:

- I walk to school every day.
- She likes apples.
- The sun rises in the east.
- Cats sleep a lot.

Look at these sentences. They tell us something that happens regularly or is always true.

How do we form the Present Simple?

For most subjects (I, you, we, they), you just use the base form of the verb. For he, she, and it, you add an 's' or 'es' at the end of the verb.

Here are some examples:

- I play football.
- You read books.
- He watches cartoons.
- She likes dancing.
- It rains often.
- We go to the park.
- They swim in the pool.

Special rules for adding 's' or 'es':

- Verbs ending in ch, sh, x, o, or z add 'es' (goes, watches, finishes).
- Verbs ending in a consonant plus y change y to i and add 'es' (tries, flies).
- Most verbs just add 's' (runs, jumps).

Examples in sentences:

1. I brush my teeth every morning.
2. She plays the piano.
3. The dog barks loudly at night.
4. We eat lunch at noon.
5. He studies every evening.

When do we NOT use the Present Simple?

We usually don't use it for actions happening right now. If you want to talk about what is happening right now, you need the Present Continuous tense, which you will learn about later.

Why is the Present Simple important?

Because it helps us tell stories about our daily lives, describe facts, and talk about routines.

It makes everyday conversation clear and easy!

Let's practice!

Now, it's your turn. Read these sentences and see if they are correct or need fixing:

1. I likes pizza.
2. She play with her dolls.
3. The birds sing in the morning.
4. We watches TV after school.
5. They go to the park every Sunday.

Answers:

1. I like pizza. (remove 's')
2. She plays with her dolls. ('plays')
3. The birds sing in the morning. (correct)
4. We watch TV after school. ('watch')
5. They go to the park every Sunday. (correct)

Great job! Remember, practice makes perfect. Keep noticing how we use the Present

Simple every day to talk about your routines and facts!

Summary:

The Present Simple tense helps us share what we do regularly, what's true all the time, and facts about the world. Use the base form of the verb for I, you, we, they, and add 's' or 'es' for he, she, it. Keep practicing, and soon using the Present Simple will be easy and natural!

Chapter 3: Practicing the Present Continuous Tense

Hello, young learners! Welcome to this exciting chapter where we will explore the Present Continuous Tense. Have you ever watched a movie and seen someone doing something right now? Maybe a cat is chasing a ball, or a boy is reading a book. That's what the Present Continuous Tense is all about! It helps us talk about actions that are happening at this very moment.

Imagine you're telling your friend what you are doing right now. You might say, "I am reading a book," or "I am playing outside." That's the Present Continuous in action! It's formed by using the correct form of "to be" (am, is, are) and adding ing to the action word (called a verb).

Let's look at how to make sentences in the Present Continuous:

- I am + playing
- You are + eating
- He/She/It is + swimming
- We are + dancing
- They are + drawing

Now, let's have some fun practicing together! I will give you some sentences, and your job will be to choose the right words to complete them.

1. She (write) a letter now.
2. We (watch) a cartoon on TV.
3. I (run) in the park today.
4. The puppy (sleep) in its bed.
5. They (build) a sandcastle at the beach.

Great job! Now, let's see the answers and understand why each one is correct.

Answers:

1. She is writing a letter now.
2. We are watching a cartoon on TV.
3. I am running in the park today.
4. The puppy is sleeping in its bed.
5. They are building a sandcastle at the beach.

Every sentence uses the correct form of the verb “to be” plus an action ending in ing.

Remember, the Present Continuous is always used for actions happening right now or around now.

Next, let's try a little game! Think about what you are doing right now. Say or write a sentence about it using the Present Continuous. For example, if you are drawing, you can say, “I am drawing.” If you are eating a snack, say, “I am eating.”

Keep practicing using the Present Continuous, and soon you will be an expert at talking about what is happening now! Well done on learning this exciting tense!

Chapter 4: Exploring the Past Simple Tense

Hello young explorers! Today, we're traveling back in time to learn about the Past Simple tense. Think of it as your time machine that helps you talk about things that already happened. Ready to take off? Let's go!

What Is the Past Simple Tense?

The Past Simple tense is used when we talk about actions or events that happened at a specific time in the past. For example, "I played soccer yesterday" or "We visited the zoo last week." The key idea is that the action is finished, and it belongs to the past.

How Do We Form the Past Simple?

Forming the Past Simple is easy! For most verbs, just add "-ed" to the base form of the verb. Here are some examples:

- walk becomes walked
- jump becomes jumped
- play becomes played

But beware! Some verbs are special and don't follow this rule. These are called irregular verbs. For example:

- go becomes went
- eat becomes ate
- see becomes saw

Now, let's see some examples with both regular and irregular verbs.

Regular verbs:

- I watched a movie last night.
- She cleaned her room.
- They started their homework early.

Irregular verbs:

- I went to the park yesterday.
- We ate pizza for dinner.
- He saw a rainbow after the rain.

When Do We Use the Past Simple?

1. To talk about finished actions or events:

"I finished my homework."

2. To tell about a past experience:

"Last summer, we traveled to the beach."

3. To describe a series of completed actions:

"I woke up, brushed my teeth, and ate breakfast."

Let's look at some sentences in the Past Simple tense:

- I played with my friends yesterday.
- She visited her grandma last weekend.
- We watched a funny movie.

Remember, time clues like yesterday, last year, ago, in 2010, or when I was a child help us

understand that we're talking about the past.

Practice Time!

Fill in the blanks with the correct Past Simple form of the verbs in parentheses:

1. Yesterday, I (bake) a cake with my mom.
2. They (not/go) to the party last night.
3. She (find) her lost toy in the garden.
4. We (have) a lot of fun at the zoo.
5. He (finish) his homework early.

Answers:

1. baked
2. did not go / didn't go
3. found
4. had
5. finished

Remember, practice makes perfect! The more you tell stories about what happened yesterday or last week, the better you get at using the Past Simple tense.

Let's Wrap It Up!

Today, we learned that the Past Simple helps us talk about things that already happened. We add "-ed" to most verbs, and some verbs change completely. Use time words like yesterday or last week to tell your stories clearly.

Next time, we'll explore the Present Perfect tense, which helps us talk about things that happened at an unspecified time before now. Get ready for more fun grammatical adventures!

Great job, little linguists! Keep practicing, and soon you'll be a past tense expert!

Chapter 5: Using the Present Perfect Tense

Hello, young explorers of language! Today, we're going on an exciting adventure to learn about a special tense called the present perfect tense. You might have heard grown-ups say things like, "I have finished my homework," or "She has visited the zoo." These sentences use the present perfect tense, and it helps us talk about things that connect the past and the present.

What Is the Present Perfect Tense?

The present perfect tense is a way to describe actions that have happened at some time before now, but the exact time isn't important or isn't mentioned. It's like a bridge between the past and the present.

You form the present perfect by using the word "have" or "has" plus the past participle of a verb. For example:

- I have eaten breakfast.
- She has read a new book.
- They have traveled to three countries.

Notice that the verbs “eaten,” “read,” and “traveled” are in their past participle forms. That’s a special form of the verb. Regular verbs add “-ed” at the end, like “walked,” but irregular verbs change in different ways, like “eat” becomes “eaten,” and “go” becomes “gone.”

When Do We Use the Present Perfect?

We use the present perfect tense in several situations. Let’s look at some common ones:

1. Things that happened at an unspecified time before now:

For example, “I have seen that movie.” The exact time isn’t mentioned, just that you saw the movie at some point.

2. Experiences or life events:

Like “She has been to Paris,” or “Have you ever ridden a roller coaster?” These talk about experience rather than when exactly they happened.

3. Actions that started in the past and are still happening now:

For example, “They have lived in this house for five years.” (They still live there now.)

4. Recently completed actions:

Like “I have just finished my homework,” or “He has already eaten.”

Let’s look at some examples:

- I have learned many new words today.

- Maria has painted a beautiful picture.
- We have played basketball this afternoon.
- The dog has found its favorite toy.

Notice how these sentences connect the past to the present. You might still be feeling excited about them or seeing the results now.

How to Form the Present Perfect Tense

It's simple! Just remember this pattern:

Subject + have/has + past participle

Use "have" with I, you, we, they

Use "has" with he, she, it

For example:

- I have finished my homework.
- He has lost his wallet.
- They have watched the new episode.

Special Notes:

- For irregular verbs, memorize their past participles. For example, go-gone, do-done, see-seen, eat-eaten.
- The past participle usually ends in "-ed" for regular verbs, like played, jumped, talked.

Practice Time!

Let's practice a few sentences. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in

parentheses.

1. She (visit) her grandma.
2. We (see) that movie before.
3. I (finish) my breakfast already.
4. They (go) to the park today.
5. He (lose) his keys.

Answers:

1. has visited
2. have seen
3. have finished
4. have gone
5. has lost

Why Is the Present Perfect Important?

Using the present perfect helps us talk clearly about our experiences, what we have done recently, or what is still happening. It makes our stories more interesting and helps others understand your life better!

Remember, mastering the present perfect will make your storytelling even more exciting.

Keep practicing, and soon you'll be using it like a pro!

Great job learning today! Keep practicing, and have fun using the present perfect tense in your sentences. Next time, we'll explore a new tense that will help you talk about what you're doing right now. See you then!

Chapter 6: Feeling Confident with the Future Simple Tense

Imagine you are sitting in your favorite park, watching the clouds drift lazily across the sky. Suddenly, your mind fills with exciting ideas about what you will do tomorrow, next week, or even next year. That is the magic of the future! The future simple tense helps us talk about things that will happen later, making our stories and plans come alive.

In English, we use the future simple tense to talk about what will happen. We form it using the word "will" plus the base form of a verb. For example:

- I will read a book tomorrow.
- She will visit her grandma next weekend.
- They will play soccer after school.

It is easy to learn and fun to use! Let's look at some more examples together to feel confident in using this tense.

First, think about what you will do today. You might say, "I will eat lunch soon," or "I will finish my homework." When you make plans or promises, the future simple helps you say what you are sure will happen.

Second, if your friend says, "I will go to the zoo tomorrow," you can reply, "I will go too!"

That way, you can talk about your own plans for the future.

To make it even more fun, try filling in these sentences with your own ideas:

1. Tomorrow, I will .
2. Next holiday, I will .
3. When I grow up, I will .

Remember, "will" is always used before the main verb. You don't need to change the verb itself in the present tense. Just add "will" before it!

Let's practice some common words:

- I will travel to new places.
- You will learn new things.
- He will be happy.
- She will draw a beautiful picture.
- We will build a sandcastle.
- They will play their favorite game.

Now, let's do a little fun activity! Imagine your perfect day tomorrow. Write three things you think will happen using the future simple tense. For example:

- I will wake up early.
- I will eat my favorite breakfast.
- I will go to the park and ride my bike.

Feeling more confident? Great! Remember, the future simple is a friendly helper that lets you talk about what will come next. It's a simple, powerful tool to share your hopes, plans, and dreams about the future.

Keep practicing by talking about your plans each day. What will you do after school? Will you visit a friend or try a new hobby? The more you use the future simple tense, the more natural it will feel.

And don't forget: everybody can become a future-teller with just a little practice. Now go ahead and tell someone what you will do next—soon you'll be a future expert!

Chapter 7: Combining Tenses in Stories

Welcome, young writers! Now that you've learned about the different tenses—present, past, and future—it's time to become real storytelling stars by combining them all in your stories. Mixing tenses can make your stories exciting and more realistic, showing what happened, what is happening now, and what might happen next.

Imagine you're telling a story about your favorite day. You might say, "Yesterday, I went to the park. I saw my friends playing, and we laughed all afternoon. Today, I am telling you about that fun day, and tomorrow, I will tell my family about it." See how different tenses

work together in this story? That's what we're going to practice!

Let's look at some tips and examples to help you combine tenses smoothly:

1. Use the past tense for events that already happened.
2. Use the present tense for what is happening now or what is generally true.
3. Use the future tense for what is going to happen.

Now, let's try creating a story using these tenses. I'll give you parts of a story, and you can try putting them together.

Imagine a story about a girl named Lily who loves animals.

First, she:

- Went to the zoo (past tense: what she already did).

Then, she says:

- Today, she is visiting the zoo (present tense: what's happening now).

Finally, she plans:

- Tomorrow, she will go back to see her favorite animal (future tense: what she will do next).

Putting it all together, the story sounds like:

"Yesterday, I went to the zoo and saw many animals. Today, I am visiting the zoo again with my friends, and we are having so much fun. Tomorrow, I will return to find my favorite

animal, the tiger, and maybe feed it!"

Great job! That story mixes past, present, and future tenses to make it colorful and full of life.

Let's try some practice sentences. Fill in the blanks with the correct tense.

1. Last Saturday, I (ride) my bicycle in the park. Now, I (think) about the fun I had.
2. Tomorrow, we (visit) the museum and see some famous paintings.
3. Yesterday, my dog (play) in the garden, and now he (rest) inside the house.
4. Next week, I (start) a new art project. Today, I (draw) pictures of animals.
5. My family (cook) dinner tonight, and I (help) set the table.

Try to answer these on your own first, then check your answers at the end of this chapter!

Here are some tips to remember when combining tenses:

- Don't switch tenses in the middle of a sentence unless you are talking about different times.
- Use the words yesterday, last year, ago, when, and then to show past events.
- Use now, today, at the moment, and currently for present actions.
- Use tomorrow, next week, soon, and in the future for future plans.

Remember, stories come alive when you mix tenses correctly! They help your stories sound real and exciting. Keep practicing by telling stories about your day, your adventures, or your dreams. The more you practice, the better stories you will create!

Congratulations for learning how to combine tenses in your stories. Happy storytelling!

Chapter 8: Common Tense Mistakes and How to Avoid Them

Learning tenses can be tricky, and even experienced writers make mistakes sometimes. But don't worry! In this chapter, we will look at some common tense mistakes that children and even adults make, and I will share simple tips to help you avoid them. By understanding these mistakes, you will become more confident in using tenses correctly!

1. Mixing Past and Present Tenses

One common mistake is switching between past and present tenses in the same sentence or story. For example:

Incorrect: Yesterday, I play in the park and see my friends.

Correct: Yesterday, I played in the park and saw my friends.

Why? Because "play" is in the present tense, and "yesterday" tells us about the past. To fix this, remember to use the past tense "played" and "saw" when talking about yesterday.

Tip: When writing about something in the past, always use the past tense forms of verbs.

Think of time words like yesterday, last week, or ago as clues for past tense.

2. Forgetting the -s or -es in the Present Simple

Many children forget to add the ending "-s" or "-es" when using the present simple tense with he, she, or it. For example:

Incorrect: She like apples.

Correct: She likes apples.

Why? Because with he, she, or it, we need to add "-s" or "-es" to the verb in the present tense.

Tip: Remember the rules for adding "-s" or "-es": for most verbs, add "-s" (likes), but if the verb ends in s, sh, ch, or x, add "-es" (watches, passes). Also, note that I, you, we, and they do not need the "-s."

3. Using Past Tense Instead of Present Perfect

Sometimes children use the simple past tense when they should use the present perfect tense, or vice versa. For example:

Incorrect: I finished my homework already. (when talking about something that happened recently and is relevant now)

Correct: I have finished my homework already.

Why? Because "have finished" (present perfect) is used for actions that happened at an unspecified time before now or that still matter now.

Tip: Think of the present perfect as "have" or "has" + the past participle of the verb. Use it

for talking about experiences or actions that are connected to now.

4. Using "Will" and "Going to" Incorrectly

When talking about the future, children sometimes mix up "will" and "going to." For example:

Incorrect: I will going to the park tomorrow.

Correct: I am going to the park tomorrow.

or

Correct: I will go to the park tomorrow.

Why? Because "am going to" is the correct form when you have already planned something, and "will" is used for spontaneous decisions or promises.

Tip: Remember that "going to" is used when you have a plan, and "will" is for making quick decisions or promises. Also, always include the verb "be" before "going to" (am, is, are).

5. Making Sentence Fragments

A common mistake is writing incomplete sentences that don't have a clear tense or verb.

For example:

Incorrect: Because I was hungry.

Correct: Because I was hungry, I ate a sandwich.

Why? Because complete sentences need a subject and a verb to make sense.

Tip: Always check that your sentence has both a subject and a verb. If you start with "because," make sure to complete the thought.

How to Avoid These Mistakes

- Practice consistently and review your work to catch errors.
- Read your sentences out loud. Do they sound right?
- Use time clues like yesterday, now, or tomorrow to help pick the right tense.
- Ask a friend, teacher, or family member to check your sentences.
- Keep a simple cheat sheet of tense rules handy for quick reference.

Remember, making mistakes is part of learning! The more you practice and pay attention to these common errors, the better you will become at using tenses correctly. Keep practicing with exercises and fun stories, and soon using tenses correctly will feel natural for you. You're doing great!

Chapter 9: Fun Tenses Quiz and Answers

Welcome to the exciting quiz that will test what you've learned about tenses so far! Are you ready to become a tense master? Grab a pencil, find a comfy spot, and let's start!

Part 1: Fill in the Blanks

1. Every morning, Sarah (wake) up early and (brush) her teeth.
2. Yesterday, Tom (play) soccer with his friends after school.
3. Right now, the children (climb) the big tree in the park.
4. I (visit) my Grandma last weekend.
5. Next week, we (go) on a school trip to the zoo.

Part 2: Choose the Correct Tense

6. She (is cooking / cooked / was cooking) dinner right now.
7. They (have finished / finished / will finish) their homework already.
8. I (am going / went / go) to the library yesterday.
9. We (are watching / watched / will watch) a new movie tonight.
10. My brother (plays / played / is playing) the piano every day.

Part 3: Correct the Mistakes

11. He is study for his exam yesterday.
12. I will goes to the park tomorrow.
13. They playing football now.
14. She has broke her toy.

15. We are seeing a funny show last night.

Part 4: Short Answer Questions

16. What are you doing right now?

17. Where did you go last weekend?

18. Have you ever ridden a bicycle?

19. Will you come to the party tomorrow?

20. Describe what you did yesterday.

Great work! Now, check your answers below to see how well you did.

Answers:

Part 1: Fill in the Blanks

1. wakes, brushes

2. played

3. are climbing

4. visited

5. are going

Part 2: Choose the Correct Tense

6. is cooking

7. have finished

8. went

9. will watch

10. plays

Part 3: Correct the Mistakes

11. He was studying for his exam yesterday.

12. I will go to the park tomorrow.

13. They are playing football now.

14. She has broken her toy.

15. We watched a funny show last night.

Part 4: Short Answer Questions

16. (Sample answer) I am reading a book.

17. (Sample answer) I went to the park with my family.

18. Yes, I have ridden a bicycle before.

19. Yes, I will come to the party tomorrow.

20. (Sample answer) Yesterday, I played with my dog and then did my homework.

Fantastic job! Remember, practicing tenses helps you tell stories clearly and confidently.

Keep using your new skills, and soon you'll be a tense expert!

Chapter 10: I Can Use Tenses Well!

Congratulations! By now, you've learned about all the different tenses in English and practiced using them. You should feel proud because understanding tenses helps you tell stories, share adventures, and talk about everything that happens around you. This chapter is all about showing what you've learned and encouraging you to keep practicing happily.

Imagine you are a superhero who has just finished learning a new power—using tenses! Just like superheroes in stories, you can now use your new skills to explain things clearly, tell exciting stories, and even dream up amazing adventures. Let's see what you can do.

First, remember that tense is like a time machine inside your words. It helps people understand when something happens—now, yesterday, or tomorrow. Using the right tense makes your sentences clear and interesting.

Next, think about how you can practice your tenses every day. Talk about what you are doing now, what you did yesterday, and what you will do tomorrow. You can say things like,

"I am playing with my friends," or "I saw a big rainbow," or "I will visit my grandma." The more you practice, the better you'll get!

Here are some fun ideas to keep your tenses skills sharp:

1. Tell Your Day as a Story

Describe what you did today using past and present tenses. Then, talk about what you plan to do tomorrow with future tense. For example, "Today I played with my puppy. Tomorrow, I will go to the park."

2. Write a Short Story

Use different tenses to tell a story. Maybe your story begins with "Yesterday, I found a mysterious box. Inside, I saw a shining star." Mix past, present, and future to make your story lively.

3. Play Tense Games

Create simple games with friends or family. Take turns saying sentences in different tenses. Ask questions like, "What are you doing now?" or "Did you enjoy your meal yesterday?" and answer in full sentences.

4. Keep a Tense Diary

Each day, write a few sentences about what you did, what you are doing now, and what you will do tomorrow. This is a great way to practice and see how tenses work in real life.

Remember, everyone makes mistakes when learning something new. That's okay! The important thing is to keep practicing and not give up. Every time you try, you get better.

You are a fantastic language explorer, and now you can confidently use many tenses to

share your stories and adventures. Keep practicing, keep reading, and keep speaking!

Tenses are your friends, helping you communicate your thoughts clearly and beautifully.

So, go ahead—use your new tenses today. Talk, write, and dream about all the wonderful things you will do. Because now, you truly can use tenses well!