

TENSES

Present Tenses

Use of Simple Present Tense

[Redacted]: Simple Present Tense is used to express habitual or regular or repeated action; as,
Mukesh goes to bed at 10 p.m.

[Redacted]: This tense (Simple Present Tense) is used to express universal truth, principle and permanent activities; as,

The sun rises in the east.

Two and two makes four.

Man is mortal.

Water boils at 100°C.

The Ganges springs from the Himalayas.

Rule (3): This tense (Simple Present Tense) is used to express possession; as,

This pen belongs to me.

I have a car.

He owns a big building.

[Redacted]: Simple Present Tense is used to express fixed programme or fixed plan of Future time. It denotes future time; as,

The college reopens in October.

Meaning : (= The college will reopen in October.)

He goes to Chennai next month.

Meaning : (= He will go to Chennai next month.)

She leaves for New York next Monday.

Meaning : (= She will leave for New York next Monday.)

The Prime Minister comes here tomorrow.

Meaning : (= The Prime Minister will come here tomorrow.)

My brother returns tomorrow.

Meaning : (= My brother will return tomorrow.)

Note: Future time expressing Adverbs (Adverbs of time) such as—Tomorrow, next day, next night, next month, next year, next week, in January, in February, in March ...etc; on Monday, on Tuesday, on Wednesday...etc are always used in such sentences.

Conditional sentence : Generally the two clauses—Principal clause and subordinate clause are used in Conditional Sentence.

A Subordinate clause starts (begins) with the Conjunctions—if, when, before, after, till, until, unless, as soon as, as long as, in case etc. In conditional Sentence, Simple Present Tense is used with the subordinate clause and simple Future Tense is used with the Principal Clause; as,

If you run fast,

↓
Sub-ordinate Clause

↓
Simple Present Tense

↓
 $S + V^1 / V^5 + O$

you will win the race.

↓
Principal Clause

↓
Simple Future Tense

↓
 $S + shall / will + V^1 + O$

Use of Present Continuous Tense

Rule (1) : Present Continuous Tense is used for an action going on (continued) at the time of speaking; as,

Mukesh is coming now.

They are playing.

The girls are playing kho-kho.

Binay is playing cricket.

She is writing her name on the black-board.

Your teacher is teaching chapter '5'.

Note : Time expressing words such as—now, at present, at the moment, this morning, currently, this evening etc are used in the sentences of Present Continuous Tense; as,

Mr. Jha is teaching mathematics at present.

He is reading a novel now.

Rule (2) : Present Continuous Tense is used for a temporary action which may not be actually happening at the time of speaking. But that action is continued in these days or near about the suitable time; as,

I am living in a rented house.

He is reading the Mahabharata.

She is studying physics these days.

In the sentences given above, the actions (verbs) such as—living, reading and studying are not happening (continued) at the time of speaking but these actions are happening nowadays or near about the suitable time.

Rule (3) : This tense (Present Continuous Tense) is used for a fixed programme or plan of the nearest future (time); as,

He is going to Chennai tonight.

She is going home tomorrow.

I am leaving for Patna next month.

My brother-in-law is coming tomorrow.

She is singing this evening.

Note : Time expressing words (Adverbs of time) such as—tonight, tomorrow, next day, next night, next moment, next week, next month, next year, this morning, this evening, 5 o'clock, 5 a.m., 6 p.m. etc are used in the sentences of Present Continuous Tense. These time expressing words denote future time. Such sentences are used to express future actions.

Rule (4) : This tense (Present Continuous Tense) is used to denote (express) intention or likelihood. It denotes the sense of future time; as,

I am going to see my father-in-law.

—*Intention*

He is going to die.

—*Likelihood*

Use of Present Perfect Tense :

Rule (1) : Present Perfect Tense is used to indicate / denote (express) completed activities (actions) in the immediate past; as,

She has written a letter.
I have just bought a pen.
He has gone to Patna market.
He has just gone out.
It has just struck ten.

Rule (2) : This tense (= present perfect tense) is used to express the past actions which are continued in the present time (or their effect is in the present time); as,

He has cut his finger.

Meaning : (= and it is bleeding now)

She has finished her work.

Meaning : (= now she is free)

My daughter has eaten all the apples.

Meaning : (= there aren't any left for you.)

It is obvious from the sentences given above that the actions have been completed in past but their effect is continued in the present time.

Rule (3) : This tense (= present perfect tense) is used to denote (= express) an action starting (= beginning) at sometime in the past and continuing (= going on) up to the present moment. The preposition—for/since is used with such actions according to need; as,

I have lived in this house since 1999.

Meaning : (= Now also I am living in this house.)

He has taught in this school for five years.

Meaning : (= Now also he is teaching in this school.)

She has been ill since Friday.

Meaning : (= Now also he is ill.)

Rule (4) : This tense (= present perfect tense) is used to express the past actions which have been completed (= or finished) in the past time, but their time is not given and not definite (= is definitely unknown); as,

She has gone to America.

Have you read 'The Arabian Night' ?

Rule (5) : Present Perfect Tense is never used with the past time expressing words (= Adverbs of past time) such as—last year, last week, last month, yesterday, the other day, ago etc. While (= whereas) simple past tense is used with the past time expressing words (= Adverbs of past time); as,

I have seen him last year.

(x)

I saw him last year.

(✓)

He has arrived last week.

(x)

He arrived last week.

(✓)

She has come the other day.

(x)

She came the other day.

(✓)

He has gone to Delhi yesterday.

(x)

He went to Delhi yesterday.

(✓)

Rule (6) : Present Perfect Tense is used with the following Adverbs or adverbial phrases such as, ever, never, always, occasionally, often, several times, already, yet (= in negatives and questions), just, lately, recently, so far, upto, upto now, upto the present, since, for, today, this week, this month, during the last few weeks, during the last few years etc; as,

He has come recently.

(✓)

She has not gone yet.

(✓)

He has worked here for five hours.

(✓)

The train has already left.

(✓)

Mukesh has not completed his work up to now.

(✓)

Use of Present Perfect Continuous Tense

Rule (1) : Present Perfect Continuous Tense is used for an action which began at some time in the past and is still Continuing; as,

She has been reading a novel since morning.

It has not been raining since last Monday.

Guriya has been singing a song for an hour.

I have been teaching in the school for five years.