

Class IX - Grammar Lesson
Tense Module – 1/1

Objective of this module : The objective of this module is to sensitize the relation between tense and time. It is also to make the learners feel the importance of the proper usage of tense and time.

Let us discuss the relation between time and tense from the examples given below :

1. We **are having** an online lesson **today**.

Tense – Present

Time - Present

2. The Prime Minister **visited** the flood affected area **yesterday**.

Tense – Past

Time - Past

3. It **will** rain **tomorrow**.

Tense – Present

Time - Future

4. I **could** be a singer in **future**.

Tense – Past

Time - Future

I **would** like to be a singer in **future**.

Tense – Past

Time - Future

On the basis of the examples given above it is clear that futurity can be expressed by both Present Tense and Past Tense.

From the examples given here and through slides you can get a clear idea about the tense and time. You will also know about their usages.

Present Tense

Uses of Simple Present Tense :

- a. to express a habitual action.

e.g., He **takes** a walk every morning.

b. to express general/ scientific truth:

e.g., Two and two **make** four/ Oil **floats** on water.

c. in exclamatory sentences :

e.g., Here **comes** the bus!

d. in imperative sentences :

e.g., **Respect** your elders.

Uses of Present Progressive Tense :

a. To express an action going on at the time of speaking :

e.g., It **is raining** heavily.

b. to express a temporary action which may not be actually happening at the time of speaking:

e.g., I **am working** on a project.

c. To express an action that is planned or arranged to take place in the near future :

e.g., He **is going to** the city next week.

d. When the reference is to a particularly obstinate habit , the present continuous is used. An adverb like always , continually, constantly is also used.

e.g., He **is committing** the same mistake time and again.

Important Uses of Present Perfect Tense :

a. To indicate completed activities in the immediate past:

e.g., He **has just come**.

b. For past actions whose time is not given:

e.g., I **have written** three books.

c. with adverbs like already, often, recently, yet, etc., :

e.g., I **have already done** this work.

Uses of Present Perfect Progressive Tense

To express an action which began at some time in the past and is still continuing :

e.g., They **have been building** the road since March last.

Past Tense

Uses of Simple Past

a. to indicate an action completed in the past (signified by past markers like yesterday, last night, last decade etc.)

e.g., I **met** him last year.

b. to express unreal/ imaginary things.

e.g., If I **won** the lottery, I **would** buy a house.

Uses of Past Progressive

a. To denote an action going on at some time in the past :

e.g., When I saw her, she **was writing** a poem with full attention.

b. For persistent habits in the past :

e.g., He **was always taking** tobacco.

Uses of Past Perfect Tense

a. to describe an action completed before a certain moment in the past :

e.g; He **had become** a billionaire even before he was 30 years old.

b. If two actions happen in the past, the earlier one is denoted by past perfect while the later one is denoted by past simple:

e.g., I **had deposited** the money in the bank when my friend came to borrow from me.

Uses of Past Perfect Progressive Tense

a. to express a repeated action in the past :

e.g., Ashish **had always been extending** a helping hand.

b. It is used to describe an action which began before the time of speaking in the past. The action either stopped before that time or continued up to it :

e.g., The student **had been preparing** for the examination.

c. to express an action that began before a certain point in the past and continued upto that time :

e.g., Kapil Dev **had been playing** for more than a decade when Tendulkar entered the Indian team.

Future Time

Uses of Future Simple

a. To express an action that has still to take place:

e.g., He **will compose** a poem tomorrow.

b. to express a prediction :

e.g., I think the Conservatives **will win** the next election.

Future Progressive

a. to express an action as going on at some time in future :

e.g., When I reach there, he **will be watching** cricket on T.V.

b. to express future events that are planned :

e.g., He **will be coming** here for Durga Pooja.

Future Perfect

To indicate the completion of an action by a certain future time:

e.g., I **shall have read** the book when you come next.

Future Perfect Continuous

to indicate an action as being in progress over a period of time that will end in the future :

e.g., He **will have been playing** for 20 years when he gets retired.

Analysis with Positive / Assertive sentence, Negative sentence / Interrogative sentence.

Simple Present

I play football.

I do not play football.

Do I play football ?

Present Progressive

I am playing football.

I am not playing football.

Am I playing football?

Present Perfect

India has made digital attack against China.

India has not made digital attack against China.

Has India made digital attack against China ?

Present Perfect Continuous

I have been writing the novel.

I have not been writing the novel.

Have I been writing the novel?

Past Simple

I solved the problem.

I did not solve the problem.

Did I solve the problem ?

Past Progressive

I was doing the work.

I was not doing the work.

Was I doing the work ?

Past Perfect

I had appeared the examination.

I had not appeared the examination.

Had I appeared the examination ?

Past Perfect Continuous

I had been verifying the truth.

I had not been verifying the truth.

Had I been verifying the truth ?

Future Simple

I will compose the poem.

I won't compose the poem.

Will I compose the poem ?

Future Continuous / Future Progressive

I will be studying in class X.

I won't be studying in class X.

Will I be studying in class X.?

Future Perfect

I will have completed the task.

I won't have completed the task.

Will I have completed the task ?

Future Perfect Continuous

I will have been residing in this room.

Will I have been residing in this room ?

Point(s) to Ponder :

Future is not a tense but a time

Reasons :

1. To speak about the future, we use auxiliary verbs.

I **will** call you tomorrow? (modal auxiliary verb)

2. We use “be going to” to talk about the future.

I **am going to** (‘be’ verb) call you tomorrow.

1. We use simple present tense to talk about things that will happen in future and that we can't control.

e.g. The concert **starts** at seven tonight.
