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Tenses

1. Simple Present :

The simple present tense indicates actions occurring now, those occurring habitually, and those that are always true. Usually, the simple present tense is just the base verb unless the subject is in the third person singular (He, She, It). In that case, you'd add “-s” or “-es” to the root.

*I **study** every morning.*

*She **studies** every morning.*

2. Simple Past :

The past tense describes actions that occurred at a specific time prior and do not extend into the present. In other words, the action is completed. The past tense is usually formed by adding “-ed” to the base of the verb, unless it's an irregular verb.

*I **studied** yesterday.*

3. Simple Future :

The simple future tense describes actions that will happen in the future. To form this tense, use [will] + the base form of the verb.

*I **will study** tomorrow morning.*

4. Present Progressive :

Use the present progressive tense to indicate that an action is in progress or happening in the future. It is formed by using [am/is/are] + the present participle.

*I **am studying**.*

*We **are studying** tomorrow.*

What Is a Present Participle?

A *present participle* is a form of a verb that ends in “-ing” and is used to form progressive tenses, but can also be used as adjectives.

- *I **am singing**.*
- *Look at that **singing** bird.*

5. Past Progressive :

The past progressive tense is used to describe continuous actions in the past, especially if the action was interrupted by another. It is formed by using [was/were] + the present participle.

I was studying when you arrived.

6. Future Progressive :

The future progressive tense indicates an action that will be in progress in the future, especially when a specific time is mentioned. It is formed by using [will be] + the present participle.

I will be studying at 8 AM tomorrow.

7. Present Perfect :

The present perfect refers to actions that began in the past and were either completed at some unspecified time in the past or continued into the present. It is formed by using [have/has] with the past participle.

I have studied before.

Here are some points to remember when using 'have' and 'has'.

Let's start with the basics. They can both be used to show possession and are important in making the 'perfect tenses'. 'Had' is the past tense of both 'has' and 'have'.

have

Have is used with some pronouns and plural nouns:

'I have a great English teacher.'

'You have toothpaste on your chin.'

'We have a meeting at 12.'

'Nurses have a difficult job.'

has

Has is used with the third person singular. For example:

'She has a great personality.'

'He has a new haircut.'

'The washing machine has a leak in it.'

'It has a hole near the door.'

contractions

I have = I've

you have = you've

we have = we've

they have = They've

he has = he's

it has = it's

negative contractions

has not = hasn't

have not = haven't

had not = hadn't

'have' and 'has' in questions

'Have you been to Australia?'

'Has Andrew left yet?'

'Who has my pen?'

'Has anyone seen my mobile phone?'

'have got' and 'have'

Both 'have got' and 'have' mean the same thing. There is no difference.

'I have got an i-phone.' = *'I have an i-phone.'*

'You have got a message.' = *'You have a message.'*

'She has got no time to sleep.' = *'She has no time to sleep.'*

'have' and 'has' verb tenses

'have/has' is an important verb in making the 'perfect tense':

Present Perfect

'She has lived here for a long time.'

'We have seen this TV show before.'

'I have cut my finger.'

Past Perfect

'I had already decided not to go before he asked me.'

'They had finished the race before it started raining.'

'She had already left when he arrived'

modal verbs: 'have to'

'have to' is used to mean that something is necessary. It is used in the following way in affirmative sentences:

subject + modal (have to / has to) + verb

'I have to wash my car today.'

'He has to write a report.'

'I had to go to the bank yesterday.'

'have to' in negative sentences

In negatives to show that something is **not** necessary we follow this rule:

subject + doesn't have to + verb

'We don't have to work tomorrow.'

'She doesn't have to wear a uniform to school'

'I didn't have to make my bed when I was young'