





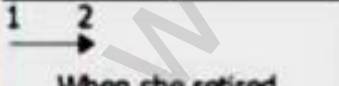
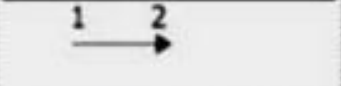


## Tense

Tenses of verbs are used to express time. They indicate the time and state of the action. The following pictographs will help you understand the tense forms better.

<b>The Tenses Chart</b>			
	<b>Past</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Future</b>
<b>Simple</b>	<p>Saran <b>wrote</b> a poem yesterday.</p> <p>Usage: To indicate a past habit or an action already completed</p>	<p>Saran <b>writes</b> a poem everyday.</p> <p>Usage: To express habits or general truth; to indicate a future event on a designated date as part of a plan or arrangement</p>	<p>Saran <b>will write</b> a poem tomorrow.</p> <p>(Helping verb) 'will' + present tense verb Usage: To indicate an action, condition, or circumstance that hasn't taken place yet</p>
<b>Progressive or Continuous</b>	<p>Saran <b>was writing</b> a poem when his friends arrived.</p> <p>was/were + (-ing verb form) Usage: To indicate uncompleted action of the past (with or without time reference); to indicate persistent habits of the past (with continuously, always, forever, etc.)</p>	<p>Saran <b>is writing</b> a poem right now.</p> <p>am/is/are + (-ing verb form) Usage: To indicate action occurring at the time of speaking; to indicate a temporary action that may not be occurring at the time of speaking</p>	<p>Saran <b>will be writing</b> a poem when his friends arrive.</p> <p>will be + (-ing verb form) Usage: To indicate what will be going on at some time in the future; to indicate planned future events</p>
<b>Perfect</b>	<p>Saran <b>had written</b> a poem when his friends arrived.</p> <p>had + past participle Usage: To indicate a completed action of the past that happened before another event took place</p>	<p>Saran <b>has written</b> the poem.</p> <p>have/has + past participle Usage: To indicate a past action which is not defined by a time of occurrence; to indicate an action that started in the past and has continued until now</p>	<p>Saran <b>will have written</b> a poem by the time his friends arrive.</p> <p>will have + past participle Usage: To indicate an action that will be complete before another event takes place</p>
<b>Perfect Continuous</b>	<p>Saran <b>had been writing</b> a poem for two hours when his friends arrived.</p> <p>had been + (-ing verb form) Usage: To indicate an action in the past that began before a certain point in the past and continued up until that point in time</p>	<p>Saran <b>has been writing</b> a poem for two hours.</p> <p>have/has been + (-ing verb form) Usage: To indicate an action which started at some point in the past and may or may not be complete</p>	<p>Saran <b>will have been writing</b> a poem for four days.</p> <p>will have been + (-ing verb form) Usage: To indicate an action that will have happened for some time and will not be complete yet at a certain point in the future</p>

S P E C I F I C  T I M E	<b>SIMPLE</b>	
	 She <b>worked</b> yesterday.	 She <b>works</b> every day.
	<b>PROGRESSIVE</b>	
	 She <b>was working</b> at 9 AM this morning.	 She <b>is working</b> right now.
U N S P E C I F I E D  T I M E	<b>PERFECT</b>	
	 When she retired, she <b>had worked</b> all her life.	 So far, she <b>has worked</b> all her life.
	<b>PERFECT PROGRESSIVE</b>	
	 When she retired, she <b>had been working</b> for 40 years.	 She <b>has been working</b> for 40 years.

## I. Past Tense:

- **Simple Past Tense:**

	First person	Second person	Third person
<b>Affirmative</b>			
*Singular	I sang yesterday.	You sang yesterday.	She/He/It sang last week.
*Plural	We sang yesterday.	You sang yesterday.	week.
<b>Negative</b>	I didn't sing yesterday.	You didn't sing yesterday.	She/He/It didn't sing last week.
<b>Interrogative</b>	Did/ Didn't I sing yesterday?	Did/ Didn't you sing yesterday?	Did/ Didn't she/he/it sing last week?

- **Past Continuous / Progressive Tense:**

	First person	Second person	Third person
<b>Affirmative</b>			
*Singular	I was singing yesterday by this time.	You were singing when I was playing.	She/He/It was singing yesterday by this time.
*Plural	We were singing yesterday by this time.	You were singing when I was playing.	They were singing when I was playing.
<b>Negative</b>	I wasn't singing	You weren't singing	She/He/It wasn't singing

- **Past Perfect Tense:**

	First person	Second person	Third person
<b>Affirmative</b>			
*Singular	I had already sung.	You had already sung	She/He/It had already sung
*Plural	We had already sung	You had already sung	They had already sung

- **Past Perfect Continuous / Progressive Tense:**

	First person	Second person	Third person
<b>Affirmative</b>			
*Singular	I had been singing for two hours yesterday.	You had been singing for two hours yesterday.	She/He/It had been singing for two hours yesterday.
*Plural	We had been singing for two hours yesterday.	You had been singing for two hours yesterday.	They had been singing for two hours yesterday.

## II. Present Tense:

- **Simple Present Tense:**

	First person	Second person	Third person
<b>Affirmative</b>			
*Singular	I sing.	You sing.	She/He/It sings.
*Plural	We sing.	You sing.	They sing.
<b>Negative</b>	I don't sing.	You don't sing.	She/He/It doesn't sing.
<b>Interrogative</b>	Do I sing? Don't I sing?	Do you sing? Don't you sing?	Does she/he/it sing? Doesn't she/he/it sing?

- **Present Continuous / Progressive Tense:**

	First person	Second person	Third person
<b>Affirmative</b>			
*Singular	I am singing now.	You are singing now.	She/He/It is singing now.
*Plural	We are singing now.	You are singing now.	They are singing now.
<b>Negative</b>	I am not singing now.	You aren't singing now.	She/He/It isn't singing now.

- **Present Perfect Tense:**

	First person	Second person	Third person
<b>Affirmative</b>			
*Singular	I have already sung.	You have already sung.	She/He/It has already sung. They have already sung.
*Plural	We have already sung.	You have already sung.	
<b>Negative</b>	I haven't recently sung.	You haven't recently sung.	She/He/It hasn't recently sung.

- **Present Perfect Continuous / Progressive Tense:**

	First person	Second person	Third person
<b>Affirmative</b>			
*Singular	I have been singing since morning.	You have been singing for two hours.	She/He/It has been singing since morning.
*Plural	We have been singing since morning.	You have been singing for two hours.	They have been singing since morning.



### III. Future Tense:

- **Simple Future Tense:**

	First person	Second person	Third person
<b>Affirmative</b>	I/we shall sing tomorrow.	You will sing tomorrow.	She/He/It/ They will sing tomorrow.
<b>Negative</b>	I won't sing tomorrow.	You won't sing tomorrow.	She/He/It won't sing tomorrow.

- **Future Continuous / Progressive Tense:**

	First person	Second person	Third person
<b>Affirmative</b>	I/we will be singing by this time tomorrow.	You will be singing by this time tomorrow.	She/He/It/ they will be singing by this time tomorrow.
<b>Negative</b>	I won't be singing by this time tomorrow.	You won't be singing by this time tomorrow.	She/He/It won't be singing by this time tomorrow.

- **Future Perfect Tense:**

The Future Perfect expresses an action that is expected to be completed by a certain time in the future.

e.g. We will have completed our work by the time our sisters arrive.

It is also used for an action which at a given future time will be in the past.

e.g. In two years' time, I shall have earned my degree.

- **Future Perfect Continuous / Progressive Tense:**

The Future Perfect Continuous Tense is used to express an action that will have been going on at or before some point of time in the future.

e.g. By next June, I shall have been completing my studies.

**Exercise:****A. Complete the sentences in present tense forms.**

1. Saravanan always .....(go) for a walk in the morning.
2. We ..... (gather) here for a meeting and the chair person is yet to arrive.
3. Arun a ..... eagerly ..... (wait) to meet her friend since morning.
4. Sheeba ..... (move) to a new house next week.
5. Naseera .....(attend) music classes regularly.
6. Ilakiya and Adhira.....(enjoy) each other's company very much.
7. Mani .....(work) in this school for five years.
8. It.....(pour) outside now.

**B. Complete the sentences in past tense forms.**

1. I .....(go) to her place on foot.
2. The children ..... (play) in the ground when the teacher arrived.
3. They ..... (request) him when the manager arrived.
4. If you ..... (work) hard, you would have won the relay match
5. Joanna and Joy .....already..... (leave) for Ooty, when the others reached the station.
6. We all ..... (sing) in the choir last week.
7. Nancy ..... always..... (ask) for help.
8. The office goers..... (wait) for the train.

**C. Fill in the blanks using the verbs in the brackets in the future form.**

1. We ..... not ..... to the market, in case it rains. (go)
2. Keerthi ..... his work by next week.(do)
3. The peon..... the bell by the time I reach the school.(ring)
4. I ..... my sister's house next April if I go to Uttarkhand. (visit)
5. If you listen carefully, you ..... my point. (understand)
6. By next year, I ..... in Chennai for fifteen years. (live)

7. The new edition of this book ..... out shortly. (come)
8. She hopes you ..... her. (help)

**D. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets and read the completed passage aloud.**

The people of India, as a whole, 1 \_\_\_\_\_ (be) warm-hearted and hospitable. Any calamity in any part of the world immediately 2 \_\_\_\_\_ (arise) their charity and generosity and a committee 3 \_\_\_\_\_ (be) promptly 4 \_\_\_\_\_ (set ) up to collect funds to help the distressed. The most endearing quality in them 5 \_\_\_\_\_ (be) the respect they show for the work done in any capacity. They 6 \_\_\_\_\_ (believe) in what we 7 \_\_\_\_\_ (call) the dignity of labour.

**E. Use the verbs given in brackets in the following sentences in their correct forms.**

1. I (like) to spend time with my friend, whenever I (be) free.
2. He (is) likely to miss the train. He (run) up to the station.
3. At the moment they (wait) at the bus stop. But I (not know) their plans for the journey.
4. They firmly (believe) in the existence of God.
5. We (hear) a lot of noise because the new buildings (transmit) sound vacant.
6. She always (make) excuses for coming late.
7. The Prime Minister (leave) for America to meet the delegates tomorrow.

**F. Read the extract from Kayal's diary entry regarding her Nepal Trek, and fill in the blanks with the correct tense form of the verbs given in brackets.**

**DAY 1** We \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) Anna International Airport in Chennai two days ago catching a direct flight to Kathmandu in Nepal. We \_\_\_\_\_ (spend) a day sightseeing. Kathmandu is full of people, rickshaws and the smell of sandalwood. I've never \_\_\_\_\_ (be) on a trip like this before. So I'm really excited.

**DAY 2** It \_\_\_\_\_ (rain) when we reached Pokhara, Nepal's second largest city, and saw the snowy peaks of the Himalayas for the first time. We \_\_\_\_\_ (reach) Pokhara after a hair-raising six-hour bus journey along very narrow roads with a lot of hairpin bends. The bus \_\_\_\_\_ (be) so full that one person had to share the driver's seat.

**DAY 3** We \_\_\_\_\_ (begin) our trek at last. We are at about 900 metres and the weather is warm and humid. For lunch we had chips and yak cheese sandwiches. I didn't like them very much. I'm thrilled that we \_\_\_\_\_ (pitch) tents for our camps in the dense forests.

**DAY 4** Yesterday a landslide \_\_\_\_\_ (block) our path and we had to use ropes to get over it. This morning we walked along the river Kali Gandaki through dense forests of oak trees and we pitched our camp at Tukuche below the Annapurna mountain range. The main danger in addition to landslides, is 'yak attack'. Yaks \_\_\_\_\_ (be) not dangerous but you have to be careful if you meet a herd of them because they can push you off the sides of the mountain.

**DAY 5** We met a lot of children on our trek through the villages. They \_\_\_\_\_ (play) in the pool of muddy rain water as we left the place. We have already climbed 2,400 metres. Up here, it never \_\_\_\_\_ (rain) and there are no trees. It \_\_\_\_\_ (be) windy and dusty and I am always thirsty.

**DAY 6** Yesterday we \_\_\_\_\_ (go) up to the mountainside of the township of Mukthinath, at 3,600 metres. The thin air with less oxygen there \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) us breathless. We \_\_\_\_\_ (feel) that we couldn't go any further. We \_\_\_\_\_ (drink) a lot of extra fluids to prevent altitude sickness.

**DAY 7** We turned around today and started to descend to Jomosom. As we went down, the oxygen filled our blood again and we seemed to \_\_\_\_\_ (fly) instead of walking.

**DAY 8** We went back to Pokhara in a small plane yesterday. It \_\_\_\_\_ (excite) when we flew between the mountain peaks. We arrived in Kathmandu this afternoon and we \_\_\_\_\_ (spend) our last few hours in shopping. We leave for Chennai tomorrow. We've had a trip of a lifetime.



**G. Read the following extract and fill in the spaces with the right form of verbs and complete the passage. The first one is done for you.**

(i) The poet stops to hear the maiden singing while she 1 \_\_\_\_\_ (cut) and 2 \_\_\_\_\_ (bind) the grain. The song of the lady 3 \_\_\_\_\_ (fascinate) the poet, who 4 \_\_\_\_\_ (stand) there to listen to the song. The girl \_\_\_\_\_ (sing) a sad song.

(ii) During the monsoon, a tender slightly warm breeze 1 \_\_\_\_\_ (blow) on a cloudless afternoon. A sort of fragrance 2 \_\_\_\_\_ (rise) from the wet grass and trees in the sunlight. It 3 \_\_\_\_\_ (seem) as if the warm breath of the exhausted earth 4 \_\_\_\_\_ (fall) against one's skin. A sweet voiced bird somewhere 5 \_\_\_\_\_ (chirp) repeatedly.

**H. Read the news item that appeared in a daily and fill in the blanks with suitable forms of the verbs given in brackets.**

Ever since social networking sites entered our lives, they 1 \_\_\_\_\_ (serve) as platforms where users could use the virtual space offered by these social media. However, recent incidents 2 \_\_\_\_\_ (cause) many to question the freedom to express views on various issues and in some cases, it 3 \_\_\_\_\_ (become) a dangerous platform. Social Contact 4 \_\_\_\_\_ (transform) people. They 5 \_\_\_\_\_ (develop) an addiction to it.

**I. Read the following passage and correct the errors you come across.**

1. Rajan slowly settle down in his retired life. His pension plus what his wife bring from the household work she does helped them to meet their requirements. Life is easy until one Sunday. His granddaughter Madhu come crying. The clay doll in her hand had broken into two. Rajan pacify her and promise to mend it. This small repair work become the founding stone of a very prosperous venture into making clay dolls which earn him great respect.

2. Games and sports helps in recreation. Soccer, cricket, lawn tennis or wrestling is eagerly watched by millions of fans all over a world. It helps one got a temporary relief from the tensions of a day. The dedication displayed by all player in the field indicates the mental and spiritual development of the player.

**J. In the following passage, circle the verbs in simple present tense and underline the verbs in simple past.**

i) Unless one is upright there is no use in being a charming fellow. Sometimes it is better to be honest than attractive. These are the great truths of modern life which Shyam never realised. He never said an ill-natured word in his life. He was always polite and spoke softly to everybody.

ii) That night he strolled into the Palette Club about eleven o'clock, and found Trevor sitting by himself in the long room. "Well, Alan, did you get the picture finished all right?" he said, as he lit his cigarette. "Finished and framed, my boy!" answered Trevor, "and by-the-bye, you have made a conquest. That old model you saw is quite devoted to you. I had to tell him all about you — who you are, where you live, what your income is, what prospects you have."

iii) "And now tell me how Laura is. The old model was quite interested in her." "You don't mean to say you talked to him about her?" said Hughie. "Certainly I did. He knows all about the relentless colonel, the lovely Laura, and the £10,000." "You told that old beggar all my private affairs?" cried Hughie, looking very red and angry. "My dear Alan," cried Hughie, "I shall probably find him waiting for me when I go home."