



ENGLISH GRAMMAR
PART II - LESSON 1
MORE ABOUT VERBS : TENSE

NOTES

A. Notes

Tense is associated with the verb. It is the basic form of the verb used in the expression of time of action, event or state etc.

1. Generally, Verb has five basic forms in English.
2. They are:

1	1(a)	2	3	4
Present (Base)	Present (Base + s)	Past	Present Participle	Past Participle
Go	Goes	Went	Going	Gone
Eat	Eats	Ate	Eating	Eaten

- (a) There are two forms in the Present. One is in the 'base' form and the other in the 'base + s' form.
 - (b) The Present Participle has 'base + -ing' form.
 - (c) The Past Participle has -d, -ed, -en, -t etc.
3. The two forms – Present and Past are called Finite forms and they are called **Present and Past tenses**.
 4. There are three more Aspects which are
 - (a) Progressive or Continuous
 - (b) Perfective and
 - (c) Perfect Progressive or Perfect Continuous
 5. The tenses with their aspects are called the Tense Forms.
 6. There are two general divisions of Verbs. They are:
 - (a) **Strong or Irregular Verbs:** Verbs whose Past tense and Past Participle forms have internal vowel change.

Examples:

Present	Past	Past Participle
Bear	Bore	Born
Do	Did	Done



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(b) **Weak or Regular Verbs:** Verbs whose Past tense and Past Participle forms have -d, -ed, -en etc.

Examples:

Present	Past	Past Participle
Bend	Bent	Bent
Hang	Hanged	Hanged

7. Some verbs have all the three forms alike.

Examples:

Present	Past	Past Participle
Bet	Bet	Bet
Cast	Cast	Cast



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