



CLASS IX & X
ENGLISH GRAMMAR
PART II - LESSON 2
MORE ABOUT TENSE

NOTES

There are two Tenses of Verbs in English – Past and Present. These

Tenses have three aspects:–

Progressive or Continuous, Perfective and Perfect Progressive or Perfect Continuous.

1. Chart of English Grammar Tenses of a Verb:

Tense + Aspect = Tense form	Simple	Continuous	Perfect	Perfect Continuous
Present	Base verb/Base+s verb	Is/am/are +Present Participle	Has/have+PastParticiple	Has/have+been+PresentParticiple
Example	I work hard. He works hard.	I am working hard. He is working hard.	I have worked hard. He has worked hard.	I have been working hard for years. He has been working hard for years.
Past	Past	Was/were+Present Participle	Had + Past Participle	Had + been + Present Participle
Example	I worked hard. He worked hard.	I was working hard. He was working hard.	I had worked hard. He had worked hard.	I had been working hard for years. He had been working hard for years.





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- (i) 'Tense' is looked upon as a form of Verb which have close relation with 'Time'.
- (ii) Verb 'Base + s' is used in the Present when the subject is in third person singular number.
- (iii) Verb 'is' is used in the Present when the subject is in third person singular number.
- (iv) Verb 'am' is used in the Present when the subject is in first person singular number.
- (v) Verbs 'are' and 'were' are used when the subject is in first person plural, second person and third person plural number. 'are' is used in the Present and 'were' in the past.
- (vi) Verb 'has' is used in the Present when the subject is in third person singular.
- (vii) Verb 'have' is used in the Present when the subject is in first person, second person and third person plural.
- (viii) Some verbs are generally not used in the Continuous Tense. These are verbs denoting abstract nouns. Some of them are – feel, know, think, believe, understand, hear, hope, like, belong etc. However, when they express a special meaning, some of them can be used in sentences.
- (ix) Verbs in Perfect Continuous Tenses do not exist in the Passive.
- (x) English verbs do not have a separate form for 'Future Tense'. Future time is expressed by different forms.



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