

Verb And Tense

What is verb?

The verb is a word or a group of words that tells what is being done and in what state. Verb is a word that shows an action. These actions can be done in anytime in the present, i.e. today or now, in the past i.e. yesterday or sometime ago or in the future i.e. tomorrow.

Present Indefinite Tense

These are actions which are done in the present-everyday or every week, or every month or every year. They are verbs in present tense. For example,

- I go to school every day.
- I write a letter to my mother every week.
- We go for picnic every Saturday.
- She visits her parents every month.
- My parents go to Varanasi every year.

Past Indefinite Tense

These are actions which are done in the past, say, yesterday or a day before, a month ago or a year ago, a few years ago or a decade ago, a century ago or ages ago. They are verbs in past tense.

Example:

- I went to school yesterday.
- I wrote a letter to my mother last week.

Future Indefinite Tense

Future tense refers to actions that will happen in the future.

Example:

- I shall go to school tomorrow.
- I shall write a letter to my mother next week.

Examples: First Person

Continuous Tense	Singular	Plural
Present	I am	We are
Past	I was	We were
Future	I shall be	We shall be

Examples: Second Person

Continuous Tense	Singular	Plural
Present	You are	You do
Past	We were	You are
Future	We shall be	You will be

Examples: Third Person

Continuous Tense	Singular	Plural
Present	He does	They do
Past	He did	They did
Future	He will be They	will be

The Perfect Tense

Present Perfect Tense

There are actions that have been completed at the present moment. These verbs are said to be in the Present Perfect Tense.

Examples:

- I have done my homework.
- I have read the novel.

Difference Between Present Perfect and Past Tense

- Present Perfect expresses an action begun in the past and completed in the present. Past tense expresses an action of the past.
- We do not mention the time when we write a sentence in present perfect tense whereas in past tense we may or may not mention the time

Example:

- I have done my homework. (present perfect)
- I did my homework yesterday; or I did my homework. (past tense)

Past Perfect Tense

Past perfect tense indicates that the action had been completed before another action was commenced.

Example:

- The train had left before I arrived.
- The patient had died when the doctor came.

In each of the above sentences we find that two actions happened in the past. Past perfect tense is used to show which of the two actions happened earlier.

Future Perfect Tense

A verb that shows that the action would have been finished before another action in the future starts, is said to be in the Future Perfect Tense.

Examples:

- When you come to my house I shall have finished the work.
- When I reach thirty I shall have established myself in life.

The Present Perfect Continuous Tense

Present Perfect Continuous Tense

Present Perfect Continuous tense is used for an action which began sometime in the past and is still continuing.

Examples:

- He has been working since twelve o'clock.
- They have been playing cards since morning.

From the above sentences we note that the present perfect tense is used with the time expressions like since, for, etc.

Past Perfect Continuous Tense

Past Perfect Continuous Tense is used for an action which began before a certain point in the past and continued up to that time.

Examples:

- He had been writing a book at that time.
- She had been singing in the AIR when she got married.

Future Perfect Continuous Tense

Future Perfect Continuous tense is used for actions which will be continued over a definite period of time in future.

Examples:

- By next month we shall have been staying in our new house.
- She will have been teaching in this school for the next twenty years.

Principal Verbs

Addition of “ed”

Present	Past	Past/Present Perfect
act	acted	acted
add	added	added
burn	burned, burnt	burned, burnt
climb	climbed	climbed
copy	copied	copied
complain	complained	complained

Addition of “d”

Present	Past	Past/Present Perfect
love	loved	loved
divide	divided	divided
name	named	named
judge	judged	judged
lie	lied	lied
joke	joked	joked

Addition of “ied” in place of “y”

Present	Past	Past/Present Perfect
multiply	multiplied	multiplied
bury	buried	buried
study	studied	studied
pity	pitied	pitied

Change of vowels

Present	Past	Past/Present Perfect
Bear	bore	borne
drink	drank	drunk
fling	flung	flung
get	got	got
ring	rang	rung
run	ran	run

Change of vowels and addition of “n”

Present	Past	Past/Present Perfect
arise	arose	arisen
awake	awoke	awaken
beget	begot	begotten
bid	bade	bidden
bite	bit	bitten

No change

Present	Past	Past/Present Perfect
bet	bet	bet
bid	bid	bid
burst	burst	burst
cast	cast	cast
cost	cost	cost
cut	cut	cut

Exception

Present Past Past/Present Perfect

- go went gone