

PRESENT TENSE

(SIMPLE, CONTINUOUS, PERFECT, PERFECT CONTINUOUS)

Tense -

✓ Tense indicates the time of action or a state of being in the past, present or future. ✓

THE THREE MAIN TENSES

- ✓ 1. The *present tense* is used to refer to an action or state of being at the time of speaking. ✓
- ✓ 2. The *past tense* expresses an action that has already taken place or refers to a state of being that existed before the time of speaking. ✓
- ✓ 3. The *future tense* refers to a state of being or an action that is expected at a certain time in the future. ✓

Form of tenses -
 ✓ Each tense has four forms ✓

- ✓ 1. Simple
- ✓ 2. Continuous
- ✓ 3. Perfect
- ✓ 4. Perfect Continuous

SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE

The simple present tense is used :

- i. ✓ to show a habitual action
 ✓ *Example :* He reads the newspaper daily.
- ii. ✓ to express a universal truth
 ✓ *Example :* All the planets of the solar system revolve round the sun.
- iii. ✓ to express an action that takes place at present or at the time of speaking
 ✓ *Example :* Rita plays near the swings.
- iv. ✓ to show a future event that is already planned
 ✓ *Example :* The Commonwealth Games begin next month.
- v. ✓ to indicate professional activities, rituals, likes and dislikes
 ✓ *Examples :* Bengalis celebrate Durga Puja with great fervour.
 ✓ He enjoys paneer tikka.
- vi. ✓ to write headlines for newspaper reports
 ✓ *Example :* Tsunami devastates Japan.
- vii. ✓ in proverbs which state some permanent truth
 ✓ *Example :* A stitch in time saves nine.
- viii. ✓ to express natural processes/qualities or activities related to any profession
 ✓ *Examples :* (a) Green vegetables are rich in fibre.
 (b) Acrobats show various tricks to entertain spectators.



Structure of Present indefinite tense.

Singular Sub + V's/es + object + etc + .

Plural sub + V' + obj + etc + .

Singular Subject + does not + V' + obj + etc + .

Plural Subject + do not + V' + obj + etc + .

~~Do~~ Do/does + Sub + V' + obj + etc + ?

Do/does + Sub + not + V' + object + etc + ?

Wh- words + do/does + Sub + V' + object + etc + ?

Wh- words + do/does + Sub + not + V' + object + etc + ?

5. They want to lose the match.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE

The present continuous tense is used :

to indicate an action which is still going on at the time of speaking

✓ **Example:** The boy is playing here.

to express an action which is taking place but is not going on at the time of speaking

✓ **Example:** I am attending yoga classes these days.

to show an action which is expected to take place

✓ **Example:** The director is visiting our school tomorrow.

to refer to a definite plan in future

✓ **Example:** She is buying a car next week.

FORMS OF PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE

Structure of Present continuous tense.

H.V. \Rightarrow is/am/are + V_{ing}

I \rightarrow am + V_{ing}

Singular Subject \rightarrow is + V_{ing}

Plural Subject \rightarrow are + V_{ing}

Sub + is/are/am + V_{ing} + object + etc + .

Sub. + is/are/am + not + V_{ing} + object + etc + .

Is/Are/Am + Sub + V_{ing} + object + etc + ?

Is/Are/Am + Sub + not + V_{ing} + object + etc + ?

Wh- words + is/are/am + Subject + V_{ing} + Obj. + etc + ?

Wh. words + is/are/am + Sub + not + V_{ing} + Obj + etc + ?



VERBS NOT USED IN THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE

There are some verbs which we generally do not use in the present continuous tense.

- (a) Verbs expressing feelings and emotions like **respect, love**
- (b) Verbs of certain activities and mental states like **think, suppose, know**
- (c) Verbs of senses like **hear, see**
- (d) Verbs showing possession like **own, belong**
- (e) Other verbs like **seem, appear, measure**

These verbs do not describe actions but mostly states. So, they are also called **non-action verbs**. But if any of these verbs is used to indicate an action which we can begin or stop at will, we can use it in the present continuous tense.

Example : I am **measuring** the length of this rope. (a controlled action)

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SIMPLE PRESENT AND PRESENT CONTINUOUS

Simple Present tense expresses habitual actions, routine actions and universal truths.

Present Continuous expresses actions going on at the time of speaking.

EXERCISE Fill in the blanks with appropriate form of *verbs* in the *simple present* or *present continuous tense*.

PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

The present perfect tense is used :

- ✓ to express an action completed in the past but linked with the present

✓ Example : The traffic police have declared a heavy penalty for those who violate traffic rules.

- i. ✓ to express an action that began in the past and is continuing in the present

✓ Example : She has lived in this house for ten years.

- ii. ✓ to express an action that has just been completed

✓ Example : She has just finished her project.

- iv. ✓ to express past events for which the exact time is not given

✓ Example : We have fulfilled our responsibility.

- ✓ to refer to news

✓ Example : The President has pardoned some convicted criminals.

Words like yet, already, just can be used to express actions in the present perfect tense.

- ii. Yet is used in negative sentences and questions.

Examples : (a) He has not returned yet.

(b) Has the flight landed yet?

- ii. Already is used to express an action that happened earlier than was expected.

Example; She has already completed her assignment though it has to be submitted next week.

- iv. Just is used to indicate a very short time ago.

Example : I just spoke to grandma before you called me up.



FORMS OF PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

Structure

Question

FORMS OF PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

Structure

Structure of Present Perfect tense

Singular Subject \rightarrow has + V^3

Plural Subject \rightarrow have + V^3

I \rightarrow have + V^3

Sub + has/have + V^3 + object + etc + ?

Sub + has/have + not + V^3 + object + etc + ?

Has/have + Sub + V^3 + obj + etc + ?

Has/have + Sub + not + V^3 + obj + etc + ?

Wh- words + has/have + Sub + V^3 + obj + etc + ?

Wh- words + has/have + Sub + not + V^3 + obj + etc + ?

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE

The present perfect continuous tense is used :

(i) to emphasise the continuity of an action that began in the past and is still going on at the time of speaking

Examples : (a) She has been driving this car for years.

(b) They have been living in this apartment for a long time.

(ii) to express an action that finished a short while ago

Example : They have been playing cricket since morning.

Structure of Present Perfect Continuous Tense

Singular subject → has been + V_{ing}

Plural subject → have been + V_{ing}

I → have been + V_{ing}

For → Period of time

Since → Point of time.

Sub + has/have + been + V_{ing} + obj + etc + since/for + time + ,

Sub + has/have + not + been + V_{ing} + obj + etc + since/for + time + .

Has/Have + Sub + been + V_{ing} + obj + etc + since/for + time + ?

Has/Have + Sub + not + been + V_{ing} + obj + etc + since/for + time + ?

Q.W + has/have + Sub + been + V_{ing} + obj + etc + since/for + Time + ?

Q.W + has/have + Sub + not + been + V_{ing} + obj + etc + since/for + time + ?

✓ Use of For and Since

① **For is used to indicate the time for which an action has been going on.** ✓

Examples: ✓ (a) for two hours

✓ (b) for ages

(c) for a year

✓ (d) for a long time

② **Since is used to indicate the point of time at which an action started.** ✓

Examples: ✓ (a) since 8 pm

(b) since an early age

✓ (c) since childhood

✓ (d) since 2010

✓ DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRESENT CONTINUOUS AND PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

① *The present continuous tense is used to express an action that is going on at the time of speaking.*

Example: I am reading.

② *The present perfect continuous tense lays emphasis on the period of time for which an action has been going on.*

Examples:

- (a) His eyes **are turning** red. (present continuous tense)
- (b) He **has been reading** for two hours. (present perfect continuous tense)

③ The verb **have** can be used to show possession or to indicate an action or experience.

Examples :

- (a) The guests **are having** real fun. (experiencing)
- (b) She **has** a good collection of books. (possession)
- (c) He **is having** his breakfast. (eating-an action)



④ D. 1.1 - Following sentences and state the tense form - C.1