

## Grammar: Tense review

Time: 60/90 minutes

Level: \*\*\*\* [B1/B2/C1]

### Lesson Plan

*Aim: to revise the 12 tenses through discussion of key tenses and provide written and spoken practice / production activities*

#### 1. Lead in

- Ask Students to discuss 'what do you know about the English tense system?'
- Try to elicit the 12 tenses and write these on the board.
- Try to elicit any rules about these tenses.

**Exercise 1:** [Grammar review #1 / discussion]- put in pairs / small groups and ask students to discuss the sentences. Explain they should underline the structure and try to explain the rule / why it is used?

- Monitor & support as necessary.
- Feedback: after each set of sentences or at the end (**ANSWER Sheet**).
- Handout the Grammar Tense Structure sheet (last page) for consolidation.

**Exercise 2:** [Tense review #2 / reading and writing] - students choose a suitable verb tense for each gap. Teacher feedbacks and explains why each tense is correct.

**Exercise 3:** [Tense review #3 / speaking activity] - in small groups of 3 or 4 students choose a number between 1-36. One member in the group asks that student the question. The student should try to speak for about 30 seconds.

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## **Grammar Tense Review #1**

What tense is it? Underline the structure? What is the use/rule?

1. I often start work at 8:30 every day. (*present simple / everyday habits or routines*)
2. The world is round.
3. I was watching TV last night.
4. I was watching TV last night when she called me.
5. We're doing a grammar review.
6. I'm having my haircut today at 3:00.
7. I will be travelling to London tomorrow evening
8. I lived in Spain in 2009.
9. They've lived in Spain since 2011.
10. I've been living in Spain for 9 years.
11. I've never been to Spain.
12. I think I'll go shopping this afternoon.
13. I'm going shopping this afternoon.
14. John was not at home; he had gone shopping.
15. John had been shopping for 2 hours before he got home.
16. The world cup will be held in Russia in 2018.
17. We will live on Mars in 2050.
18. I'll help you with your homework later.
19. The train leaves at 3:45.
20. Look at those black clouds - It's going to rain.
21. By June, I'll have been here for 2 months.
22. By June, I'll have been living here for 2 months.

## **Grammar Tense Review ANSWERS**

What tense is it? Underline the structure? What is the use/rule?

1. I often start work at 8:30 every day (*present simple / everyday habits or routines*)
2. The world is round (*facts, things that are generally true*)
3. I was watching TV last night (*an activity at a specific time in the past*)
4. I was watching TV last night when she called me. (*interrupted action - an activity in progress when something else happens*)
5. We 're doing a grammar review (*an activity now / or around now*)
6. I 'm having my haircut today at 3:00 (*an arrangement in the future*)
7. I will be travelling to London tomorrow evening (*an activity in the future at a specific time*)
8. I lived in Spain in 2009 (*a finished past action*)
9. They 've lived in Spain since 2011 (*the past and present connected*)
10. I 've been living in Spain for 9 years (*a present and past connection showing activity*)
11. I 've never been to Spain (*experience / in my life*)
12. I think I 'll go shopping this afternoon (*a spontaneous decision made at the time of speaking*)
13. I 'm going shopping this afternoon (*a plan - a decision made before speaking*)
14. John was not home, he had gone shopping (*the past of the past*)
15. John had been shopping for 2 hours before he got home (*a past activity of the past*)
16. The world cup will be held in Russia in 2018 (*future fact*)
17. We will live on Mars in 2050. (*future prediction*)
18. I 'll help you with your homework later (*an offer*)
19. The train leaves at 3:45 (*timetables*)
20. Look at those black clouds - It's going to rain (*future prediction with evidence*)
21. By June, I 'll have been here for 2 months (*looking back from a future time*)
22. By June, I 'll have been living here for 2 months (*looking back on an activity from a future time*)

## Tense Review #2

*Read the following passage and put the verbs in the correct form (active or passive)*

I must admit that Maria's English 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (**improve**) every day. Three weeks ago she 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (**manage**) to book the Portsmouth to Santander Ferry at the local travel agents all in English. The night before we 3) \_\_\_\_\_ (**leave**), she 4) \_\_\_\_\_ (**ring**) me to remind me to be on time. 'Don't forget the train 5) \_\_\_\_\_ (**leave**) at 7:35 and if we 6) \_\_\_\_\_ (**miss**) that, we 7) \_\_\_\_\_ (**miss**) the ferry too'!! She said.

'Of course I 8) \_\_\_\_\_ (**be**) late,' I replied annoyed. 'You're the one who always 9) \_\_\_\_\_ (**turn up**) late for things!'. Surprisingly, we both 10) \_\_\_\_\_ (**arrive**) on time at the station 11) \_\_\_\_\_ (**catch**) our train. We 12) \_\_\_\_\_ (**sit**) on the train for about 10 minutes when we realized, to our horror, that the train 13) \_\_\_\_\_ (**go**) in the wrong direction! We got off at the next station where a ticket seller informed us that there 14) \_\_\_\_\_ (**be**) another train to Portsmouth until 8:45. We explained that we had to catch the ferry at 10:00. 'Well, if I 15) \_\_\_\_\_ (**be**) you he said, 'I 16) \_\_\_\_\_ (**take**) the bus. That should get you to Portsmouth before the ferry 17) \_\_\_\_\_ (**set**) sail. But you 18) \_\_\_\_\_ (**have**) hurry, it 19) \_\_\_\_\_ (**leave**) the bus station in 10 minutes!'

We shot off like lightning despite our heavy rucksacks on our backs and jumped on the bus just as the driver 20) \_\_\_\_\_ (**close**) the doors. We just 21) \_\_\_\_\_ (**collapse**) in our seats with a sigh of relief, when the driver announced, 'Sorry everyone but the motorway 22) \_\_\_\_\_ (**repair**) so we 23) \_\_\_\_\_ (**get**) to Portsmouth until 9:45. We moaned in despair. That gave us only 15 minutes to get to the ferry terminal. We arrived at Portsmouth bus station at 9:40 and jumped into a Taxi. 'The Santander ferry Terminal and please hurry,' I shouted, or it 24) \_\_\_\_\_ (**go**) before we 25) \_\_\_\_\_ (**get**) there'.

To our astonishment, the taxi driver calmly switched off the engine and turned around 26) ' \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ ?' (**hear**) He said smiling, 'the ferry workers 27) \_\_\_\_\_ (**come out**) on strike last night, so there's no ferries today!'. 'Oh no!' I cried in disbelief. 'If only I 28) \_\_\_\_\_ (**listen**) to the news this morning!

## Tense Review **ANSWERS**

I must admit that Maria's English 1) is improving every day. Three weeks ago she 2) managed to book the Portsmouth to Santander Ferry at the local travel agents all in English. The night before we 3) were leaving, she 4) rang me to remind me to be on time. 'Don't forget the train 5) leaves at 7:35 and if we 6) miss that, we 7) will miss the ferry too'!! She said.

'Of course I 8) won't be late,' I replied annoyed. 'You're the one who always 9) turns up late for things!'. Surprisingly, we both 10) arrived on time at the station 11) to catch our train. We 12) were sitting on the train for about 10 minutes when we realized, to our horror, that the train 13) was going in the wrong direction! We got off at the next station where a ticket seller informed us that there 14) would not be another train to Portsmouth until 8:45. We explained that we had to catch the ferry at 10:00. 'Well, if I 15) were you he said, 'I 16) would take the bus. That should get you to Portsmouth before the ferry 17) sets sail. But you 18) have to hurry, it 19) leaves the bus station in 10 minutes!'

We shot off like lightning despite our heavy rucksacks on our backs and jumped on the bus just as the driver 20) was closing the doors. We just 21) collapsed in our seats with a sigh of relief, when the driver announced, 'Sorry everyone but the motorway 22) is being repaired so we 23) will not get to Portsmouth until 9:45.

We moaned in despair. That gave us only 15 minutes to get to the ferry terminal. We arrived at Portsmouth bus station at 9:40 and jumped into a Taxi. 'The Santander ferry Terminal and please hurry,' I shouted, or it 24) will have gone before we 25) get there'.

To our astonishment, the taxi driver calmly switched off the engine and turned around 26) 'haven't you heard?' He said smiling, 'the ferry workers 27) came out on strike last night, so there's no ferries today!'. 'Oh no!' I cried in disbelief. 'If only I 28) had listened to the news this morning!

Adapted from: Soars, L. & J. (1996) *Headway*. Oxford: OUP

## Tenses and Speaking Review #3

- 1) Past simple – tell an anecdote (funny story about you).
- 2) Past continuous (activity at a certain time in the past) – what **were** you **doing** last night?
- 3) Past continuous (2 or more activities time in the past) - Talk about a time when you were multi-tasking.
- 4) Past continuous (interrupted action) – Talk about smt you **were doing** when smt else **happened**.
- 5) Past perfect (the past of the past) – What **had** you **done** before you came to class?
- 6) Past perfect (past reason) – Why were you late? Because I **had** \_\_\_\_\_ (p/p).....
- 7) Past perfect continuous (past activity of the past) What **had** you **been doing** before you came here?
  
- 8) Present simple (habits/routines) – Describe your usual weekend.
- 9) Present simple (facts) – Tell an interesting fact about your country.
- 10) Present simple (for future: time tables) – What time **is** your bus/train /plane?
- 11) Present continuous (now) – Describe what you **are doing** now?
- 12) Present continuous (temporary actions) – Talk about a temporary situation at the moment.
- 13) Present continuous (future: time, place, person) – What **are** you **doing** at the weekend?
- 14) Present perfect simple (past to present with for / since) – How long **have** you been in this country?
- 15) Present perfect simple (experience) – **Have** you **ever eaten** anything unusual?
- 16) Present perfect simple (around now) – What **have** you just/already **done**? / what haven't you done yet?
- 17) Present perfect continuous (an activity - past to present) - What **have** you **been doing** for a long time?
- 18) Present perfect continuous (a temporary activity) - How long **have** you **been staying** here?
- 19) Present perfect continuous (unfinished activity) - Talk about an activity you **have been doing**.
  
- 20) Future simple (going to: a plan/intention) – What **are** you **going to do** at the weekend?
- 21) Future simple (will: spontaneous decision) – I'm having a party tonight. Will you come?
- 22) Future simple (will: prediction) – Who **will win** the world cup next?
- 23) Future simple (will: facts) – Where **will** the Olympics be **held** next?
- 24) Future continuous (activity in the future) - What **will** you **be doing** tomorrow at 8:30pm?
- 25) Future perfect simple (look forward) – By next year I **will have been in here for** \_\_\_\_years.
  
- 26) If conditional (first) – **If** I **go** to your country, what **should** I **see**?
- 27) If conditional (second) – **If** you **won** £1,000,000, what **would** you **do**?
- 28) If conditional (third) – **If** you **hadn't come** to the here, what **would** you **have done**?
  
- 29) Present simple passive: What products **are produced** in your country?
- 30) Past simple passive: What important information **were** you **given** about the UK?
- 31) Present perfect passive: What businesses in your country **have been affected** by the economic crisis?
- 32) Future simple passive: Do you think the Earth **will be destroyed** by human activity by 2200?
  
- 33) Used to do (an activity in the past you don't do now) - What did you **used to do**?
- 34) To have something done (causative) – What do you **need to have done** (you / home / car)?
- 35) Used to doing (it was hard at first but now it's ok) - What **are** you **used to doing** now?
- 36) To get used to (it is still difficult) - What **are** you **getting used to doing** here in the UK?

Tense	Rule	Example Sentence
<b>Present Simple</b> [infinitive]	1. a habit 2. a fact or something true 3. timetables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I often <b>start</b> work at 8:30 everyday</li> <li>The world <b>is</b> round</li> <li>The trains <b>leave</b> at 3:45</li> </ul>
<b>Present Continuous</b> [is/am/are + ing]	1. an activity now 2. a temporary activity 3. an arranged future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We're <b>doing</b> a grammar review (now)</li> <li>I'm <b>staying</b> here for only one month</li> <li>I'm <b>having</b> my haircut today at 3:00</li> </ul>
<b>Present Perfect Simple</b> [have/has +/past participle]	1. an action that occurred in the past and connects to now 2. a past experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adverbs (for/since/ just/never/ever /yet)</li> <li>Time expressions (today / recently / this morning..)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They've <b>lived</b> here <b>since</b> 2011</li> <li>He's <b>had</b> a mobile phone <b>for</b> 1 year</li> <li>We've <b>just</b> <b>seen</b> Peter</li> <li>I've <b>never</b> <b>been</b> to Japan</li> </ul>
<b>Present perfect Continuous</b> [Have/has +been+ing]	1. an activity that started in the past but continues up to now.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I've <b>been studying</b> English <b>for</b> 9 years</li> </ul>
<b>Past Simple</b> [past simple form]	1. a finished action in the past	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I <b>lived</b> in Spain in 2009</li> </ul>
<b>Past Continuous</b> [was/were+ing]	1. an activity in the past 2. an activity in progress when another action took place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I <b>was watching</b> TV last night (at 9:00)</li> <li>While I <b>was watching</b> TV, a friend <b>arrived</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Past perfect Simple</b> [had + past participle]	1. the past of the past (before / after / when)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John <b>was</b> not home, he <b>had gone</b> shopping</li> <li>When we arrived, he <b>hadn't</b> eaten his dinner</li> </ul>
<b>Past Perfect Continuous</b> [had+been+ing]	1. a past activity of a past action (before / after/when)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I <b>had been waiting</b> for 20 mins before the bus came.</li> </ul>
<b>Future Simple</b> [will+infinitive]	1. future facts 2. predictions 3. spontaneous decisions 4. promises, offers, threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The world cup <b>will be held</b> in Russia in 2018</li> <li>We <b>will live</b> on Mars in 2050.</li> <li>I think I'll <b>go</b> shopping this afternoon</li> <li>I'll <b>help</b> you with your homework later (offer)</li> </ul>
<b>Future simple</b> [going+to+infinitive]	1. plans & decision made before speaking / 2. predictions made with present evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>She <b>is going to play</b> badminton tonight (a plan)</li> <li>Look at those black clouds - It's <b>going to rain</b></li> </ul>
<b>Future Continuous</b> (time) [will+be+ing]	1. an activity in the future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I <b>will be travelling</b> to London tomorrow evening</li> </ul>
<b>Future Perfect Simple</b> [will+been+past participle]	1. an action will be completed sometime in the future (by / in)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By June, I'll <b>have been</b> here for 2 months</li> </ul>
<b>Future Perfect Continuous</b> [will+have+been+ing]	1. an activity will be completed sometime in the future (by/ in)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In April, I'll <b>have been living</b> here for 5 years</li> </ul>