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Beginner lessons for Tenses

Mastering Tenses: The Key to Clear Communication

DEFINITION

Tenses indicate when an action occurs—past, present, or future. Understanding tenses helps you express time accurately.

KEY CONCEPTS

Present Simple

Describes habits, facts, or routines. Example: 'She walks to school.'

Past Simple

Describes actions completed in the past. Example: 'He played soccer yesterday.'

Future Simple

Describes actions that will happen later. Example: 'They will travel next week.'

Present Continuous

Describes ongoing actions happening now. Example: 'I am studying right now.'

Past Continuous

Describes actions that were ongoing in the past. Example: 'She was reading when I called.'

EXAMPLES

→ I eat breakfast every day.

→ They visited the museum last week.

→ We will go to the park tomorrow.

MEMORY TIPS

★ Think of present as 'now,' past as 'then,' and future as 'later.'

★ Use 'ed' for regular past verbs to remember past tense.

★ Visualize a timeline to place actions in the correct tense.

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ Mixing up past and present forms.

✗ Forgetting to use 'will' for future actions.

✗ Omitting 'am/is/are' in present continuous tense.

QUICK RECAP

Tenses are essential for indicating time in language. Focus on the differences between present, past, and future forms to communicate effectively.