

## The Tense

### 1. Simple present Tense

This tense is used to express mainly habitual actions. Also it is used in radio commentaries and when telling or talking about, films, dramas, novels, etc.....

When subject is plural, we keep the plural verb. If the subject is singular, we keep the singular verb.

#### **Affirmative form**

1. I teach English Daily.
2. We go foot to school.
3. You give good advices.
4. They cut firewood once a week.
5. People talk about politics every time.
6. Children study many subjects.
7. He teaches English daily.
8. She goes to Temple on Poya days.

#### **Negative form**

1. I do not teach English Daily.
1. We do not go foot to school.
2. You don't give good advices.
3. They don't cut firewood once a week.
4. People don't talk about politics every time.
5. Children don't study many subjects.
6. He doesn't teach English daily.
7. She doesn't goes to Temple on Poya days.

When turn singular subject sentence in to negation helping verb is does and main verb must be kept in plural.

- She doesn't go to temple.

### **Interrogative form**

When turn in to interrogative (question) form again do and does use as helping verbs.

- Do I teach English?
- Does she go to temple?

### **Negative interrogative form**

When turns into negative interrogative form we use do not and doesn't as helping verbs.

- Do I teach English?
- Does she not go to temple?

Some more examples

1. Don't you come with me?
2. She doesn't eat flesh.
3. I carry many things to little children.
4. They don't understand English well.
5. Does he talk with you.
6. My sister play violin beautifully.
7. How do they go there?
8. What do your brothers do?

## **2. Present continues Tense**

The present continues tense is mainly used to tell that an action is been performed at the time of speaking

This tense can be used for a definite near future action.

Also this tense can be used to tell an action that is not helping now but at present time.

### **Affirmative form**

1. I am making a flower bed.
2. She is cleaning the house.
3. He is splitting fire wood.
4. Miss. Chandra is counting money.
5. Mr. Kumara is drawing a house plan.
6. You are talking quickly.
7. They are playing cricket in the paddy field.
8. I am talking about love.

### **Negative form**

1. I am not making a flower bed.
2. She is not cleaning the house.
3. He is not splitting fire wood.
4. Miss. Chandra is not counting money.
5. Mr. Kumara is not drawing a house plan.
6. You are not talking quickly.
7. They are not playing cricket in the paddy field.
8. I am not talking about love.

### **Interrogative form**

1. Am I making a flower bed?
2. Is she cleaning the house?
3. Is He splitting fire wood?
4. Is Miss. Chandra counting money?
5. Is Mr. Kumara drawing a house plan?
6. Are you talking quickly?
7. Are they playing cricket in the paddy field?
8. Am I talking about love?

### **Negative Interrogative**

1. Am not I making a flower bed?
2. Is not she cleaning the house?
3. Isn't he splitting fire wood?
4. Is not Miss. Chandra counting money?
5. Is not Mr. Kumara drawing a house plan?
6. Are not you talking quickly?
7. Are not they playing cricket in the paddy field?
8. Am not I talking about love?

### 3. The present perfect tense

The present perfect tense is mainly used to tell about completed actions. It has a small connection to the past tense.

This tense is also used the time expression. The helping verbs are HAVE and HAS.

Have for plural and Has for singular and the main verb must be kept on past participle.

#### **Affirmative form**

1. I have obtained a loan from Sampath Bank.
2. We have given correct answers.
3. You have told every secret to me.
4. They have sent applications for job.
5. People have decided about the election.
6. She has made a nice cake.
7. He has broken his promise.
8. My brother has been to USA.

#### **Negative form**

1. I haven't obtained a loan from Sampath Bank.
2. We haven't given correct answers.
3. You haven't told every secret to me.
4. They haven't sent applications for job.
5. People haven't decided about the election.
6. She hasn't made a nice cake.
7. He hasn't broken his promise.
8. My brother hasn't been to USA.

#### **Interrogative**

1. Have I obtained a loan from Sampath Bank?
2. Have we given correct answers?
3. Have you told every secret to me?
4. Have they sent applications for job?
5. Have People decided about the election?
6. Has she made a nice cake?

7. Has He broken his promise?
8. Has my brother been to USA?

### **Negative Interrogative**

1. Haven't I obtained a loan from Sampath Bank?
2. Haven't we given correct answers?
3. Haven't you told every secret to me?
4. Haven't they sent applications for job?
5. Haven't People decided about the election?
6. Hasn't she made a nice cake?
7. Hasn't He broken his promise?
8. Hasn't my brother been to USA?

## **4. The present perfect continues tense**

To form this tense we use have been / has been) as helping verb. The main verb kept in – ing form.

This tense gives a time expression. Action started in past time and being continued up to the tome of speaking.

### **Affirmative form**

1. I have been building a house since 2003.
2. We have been studying English since last month.
3. They have been working I in the Chena from 5:30 AM.
4. You have been reading lessons for three hours.
5. Children have been playing since morning.
6. He has been cleaning the garden for two weeks.

### **Negative form**

1. I haven't been building a house since 2003.
2. We haven't been studying English since last month.
3. They haven't been working I in the Chena from 5:30 AM.
4. You haven't been reading lessons for three hours.
5. Children haven't been playing since morning.
6. He hasn't been cleaning the garden for two weeks.

### **Interrogative form**

1. Have I been building a house since 2003?
2. Have we been studying English since last month?
3. Have they been working I in the Chena from 5:30 AM.?
4. Have you been reading lessons for three hours?
5. Have children been playing since morning?
6. Has he been cleaning the garden for two weeks?

### **Negative Interrogative**

1. Haven't I been building a house since 2003?
2. Haven't we been studying English since last month?
3. Haven't they been working I in the Chena from 5:30 AM.?
4. Haven't you been reading lessons for three hours?
5. Haven't children been playing since morning?
6. Hasn't he been cleaning the garden for two weeks?

## **5. Simple past tense**

In the past tense, there is no singular or plural difference of the subject to the verb. The verb is in the same form negative, interrogative and negative interrogative the main verb is in present tense plural form. The helping verb is - did.

### **Affirmative form**

1. I gave him all the instructions.
2. We took a little rest.
3. You did a bad work.
4. They visited Polonnaruwa.
5. You and I started early in the morning.
6. Mallika went Colombo yesterday.

### **Negative form**

1. I didn't give him all the instructions.
2. We don't take a little rest.
3. You didn't do a bad work.
4. They didn't visit Polonnaruwa.
5. You and I didn't start early in the morning.
6. Mallika didn't go Colombo yesterday.

### **Interrogative form**

1. Don't I give him all the instructions?
2. Don't we take a little rest?
3. Don't you do a bad work?
4. Don't they visit Polonnaruwa?
5. Don't you and I start early in the morning?
6. Don't Mallika go Colombo yesterday?

### **Negative Interrogative form**

7. Didn't I give him all the instructions?
8. Didn't we take a little rest?
9. Didn't you do a bad work?
10. Didn't they visit Polonnaruwa?
11. Didn't you and I start early in the morning?
12. Didn't Mallika go Colombo yesterday?

## **6. Past continues tense**

This tense doesn't say when the action started or when it finished. It only says that an action is being performed at a time in the past.

### **Affirmative form**

1. I was discussing about our son last night.
2. She was cooking at that time.
3. You were talking with a boy.
4. They were listening to news.

### **Negative form**

1. I wasn't discussing about our son last night.
2. She wasn't cooking at that time.
3. You weren't talking with a boy.
4. They weren't listening to news.

### **Interrogative form**

1. Was I discussing about our son last night?
2. Was she cooking at that time?
3. Were you talking with a boy?
4. Were they listening to news?

### **Negative Interrogative form**

1. Wasn't I discussing about our son last night?
2. Wasn't she cooking at that time?
3. Weren't you talking with a boy?
4. Weren't they listening to news?

## **7. Past perfect tense**

This tense is used to express the past completed actions. There's no singular or plural difference of the subject.

Helping verbs – had

Main verb – past participle form.

### **Affirmative form**

1. I had written a sad story.
2. We had tried our best.
3. You had stolen my money.
4. Minister had given his contest.



### **Negative form**

1. I hadn't written a sad story.
2. We hadn't tried our best.
3. You hadn't stolen my money.
4. Minister hadn't given his contest.

### **Interrogative form**

1. Had I written a sad story?
2. Had we tried our best?
3. Had you stolen my money?
4. Had Minister given his contest?

### **Negative Interrogative form**

1. Hadn't I written a sad story?
2. Hadn't we tried our best?
3. Hadn't you stolen my money?
4. Hadn't Minister given his contest?

## **8. Past perfect continuous tense**

This tense tells us that a contain action started in the past time and continued to another time in the past. There's no singular or plural of the subject and the helping verbs are had been. Main verb must be kept in – ing form.

### **Affirmative**

1. I had been trying to give-up smoking for a long time.
2. You had been talking with them for two hours.

### **Negative**

1. I hadn't been trying to give up smoking for a long time.
2. You hadn't been talking with them for two hours.

### **Interrogative**

1. Had I been trying to give-up smoking for a long time?
2. Had you been talking with them for two hours?

### **Negative Interrogative**

Hadn't I been trying to give-up smoking for a long time?  
Hadn't you been talking with them for two hours?

## **9. Simple future tense**

This tense tells us that an action occurs in future time. Verb is not formed into future, so we use shall/ will as helping verbs to the present tense plural verb.

Shall or Will be can be used for 1<sup>st</sup> person I / We

- I shall help you.
- I will help you.
- We will take good marks.

In the second and Third persons we use only will.

- You will meet Mr. Silva.
- Sandhun will marry in 2015.

### **Affirmative form**

1. I will help you to do that.
2. We shall think about his reaction.
3. We will collect funds for them.
4. You will get a chance for do it.

### **Negative form**

1. I will not help you to do that.
2. We shall not think about his reaction.
3. We will not collect funds for them.
4. You will not get a chance for do it.

### **Interrogative form**

1. Will I help you to do that?
2. Shall we think about his reaction?
3. Will we collect funds for them?
4. Will you get a chance for do it?

### **Negative Interrogative form**

1. Will I not help you to do that?
2. Shall we not think about his reaction?
3. Will we not collect funds for them?
4. Will you not get a chance for do it?

## **10. Future continuous tense**

This tense tells us that an action being performed at a time in future. This tense is not used every time. When you want to give the tense you can use this future continuous. This tense doesn't tell us that the action starting time or finishing time.

Helping verbs - will be / shall be  
Main verb is the ing form

### **Affirmative form**

1. I shall be working in my garden.
2. I will be discussing.
3. We will be listening to news.

### **Negative form**

1. I shall not be working in my garden.
2. I will not be discussing.
3. We will not be listening to news.

### **Interrogative form**

1. Shall I be working in my garden?
2. Will I be discussing?
3. Will we be listening to news?

### **Negative Interrogative form**

1. Shall not I be working in my garden?
2. Will not I be discussing?
3. Will not we be listening to news?

## 11. Future perfect tense

This tense tell us that an action will be completed in future time.

Helping verbs shall be \ will be

Main verb must be kept in past participle form.

### **Affirmative**

1. I will have completed the grammar course.
2. You will have thought him everything.

### **Negative form**

1. I will not have completed the grammar course.
2. You will not have thought him everything.

### **Interrogative form**

1. Will I have completed the grammar course?
2. Will you have thought him everything?

### **Negative Interrogative form**

1. Will not I have completed the grammar course?
2. Will not you have thought him everything?

## 12. Future perfect continuous tense

Helping verbs shall have been / will have been  
Main verb is in the ing form

This tense tells us that an action will be started in a future time and continued up to another time in the future.

### **Affirmative**

1. I shall have been advising them from tomorrow morning till evening.
2. We shall have been playing for five hours.

### **Negative form**

1. I shall not have been advising them from tomorrow morning till evening.
2. We shall not have been playing for five hours.

### **Interrogative form**

1. Shall I have been advising them from tomorrow morning till evening?
2. Shall we have been playing for five hours?

### **Negative Interrogative form**

1. Shall not I have been advising them from tomorrow morning till evening?
2. Shall not we have been playing for five hours?

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