

Lesson No. 03

Verbs and Tenses

KEY POINTS

Verbs and tenses

A verb is a word or more than one word (verb phrase) that is used to express an action or a state of being of the subject.

A verb that is used in a sentence is usually an **action verb** or a **linking verb**.

There are different kinds of verbs

Verbs as a part of speech are divided into regular verbs and irregular verbs.

Regular verbs are those whose past tense and past participles are formed by adding a -d or an -ed to the end of the verb.

Irregular verbs are those verbs that do not follow the typical pattern of the regular verb in the formation of the simple past and past participle.

The verbs can also be divided into transitive verb and intransitive verb.

A transitive verb is an action verb that must have a direct object.

An intransitive verb is an action that does not have a direct object.

Examples:

Transitive verb: It is better we **eat something** before we go.

Intransitive verb: Our parents like to **eat out** on Sundays.

Transitive verb: She **poked the attacker** in the left eye.

Intransitive verb: He **poked at** a snake with a stick.

Transitive verb: They **played hide-and-seek** yesterday.

Intransitive verb: The children **played** in the park.

Transitive verb: He is too fat to **touch his toes**.

Intransitive verb: The sign says, "Please don't **touch**."

Transitive verb: When she heard what happened, she **cried tears** of joy.

Intransitive verb: Someone **is crying** loudly.

There are auxiliary verbs (also called helping verb) and main verbs.

Helping verbs are used with main verbs to create the verb tenses

The main verb expresses the main action or state of being of the subject in the sentence. The main verb is also called the lexical verb.

Examples:

I **am** sleepy. / She **is** pretty. / He **was** tall. / We **are** lost. / They **were** tired.

It **has** a long tail. / You **have** good looks. / We **had** dinner together.

I **do** it every day. / **Does** she know you? Yes, she **does**. / She **did** nothing wrong.

Modals or modal verbs are also auxiliary verbs. They are also called **modal auxiliary verbs: can, could, will, would, may, might, shall, should, must, ought to, used to**. Modal verbs are used to express **ability, etc.**

Examples:

She **can** drive a tractor. (Ability)

He **could** swim across the river. (Ability)

If we don't leave now, we **could** be late. (Possibility)

I **will** call you this evening. (Willingness)

He **may** know how to repair it. (Possibility)

You **might** like a ride in the roller coaster. (Suggestion)

She **would** like to join us. (wish)

We **must** get up early tomorrow. (Necessity)

They **should** follow the instructions. (Obligation)

Difference between linking verb and action verb

Linking verbs are followed by adjectives which act as complements. Action verbs are followed by adverbs, which are their modifiers. Verbs that can be used as either linking verbs or action verbs include **feel, get, grow, look, prove, remain, smell, sound, stay, taste, and turn.**

Examples:

Linking verb: Weeds **grow** wild in the untended garden.

Action verb: He **grows** a beard.

Linking verb: The three of us **got** seasick, so we lied down.

Action verb: You need to **get** a job soon.

Linking verb: The evidence will surely **prove** their guilt.

Action verb: The alternative treatments **have proven** highly beneficial.

Linking verb: I tried to **stay** awake through the whole movie.

Action verb: The judge agreed to **stay** the execution.

Linking verb: We **turned** left twice and lost our way.

Action verb: The car **turned** the corner too fast and overturned.

Verbs in different tenses

Tense – Verbs come in three tenses: **past, present, and future**

There are six tenses for verb. Each verb (in bold) is conjugated for the tenses as follow:

Simple Present: She **cycles** to school.

(The simple present tense shows an action that always happens or happens often.)

Simple Past: She **cycled** to school.

(The simple past tense shows an action in the past.)

Simple future: She **will cycle** to school.

(The simple future tense shows an action that happens in the future.)

Present continuous: she **is cycling** to school.

(The tense shows an action that continue in the present)

Past continuous: she **was cycling** to school.

(The tense shows an action that was in progress at a special time in the past)

Future continuous: she **will be cycling** to school.

(The tense shows an action that will be in progress at a certain time in the future)

Present Perfect: She **has cycled** to school.

(The present perfect tense shows an action that happen recently)

Past Perfect: She **had cycled** to school.

(The past perfect tense shows an action that was completed at some time in the past.)

Future Perfect: She **will have cycled** to school.

(The future perfect tense shows an action that will be completed at a specified time in the future.)

Present perfect continuous: she **has been cycling** to school.

(The tense shows an actions that begins in the past and still continuing)

Past perfect continuous: she **had been cycling** to school.

(The tense shows an action that begins in the past and continues to the specific time in the past)

Future perfect continuous: she **will have been cycling** to school.

(The tense that shows an action that will have already begun and will be continuing in the future)

Person – Verbs are conjugated for each of the six different persons:

first person singular: I go; **second person singular:** you go; **third person singular:** he/she/it/one goes

first person plural: we go; **second person plural:** you go; **third person plural:** they go

Number – Verbs have two numbers: **singular** – the dog barks; **plural** – the dogs bark

ETEA PAST PAPERS (Lesson No. 3 Verbs)

ETEA MEDICAL PAPER YEAR 2017

Q 1) I enjoy _____ tennis.

- (a) to play (b) plays
(c) playing (d) to playing

ANSWER: (c)

Q 2) The path _____ paved, so we were able to walk through the path.

- (a) Had been (b) Was
(c) Has been (d) Being

ANSWER: (a)

Q 3) Choose the correct sentence.

- (a) Naila was so exhausted that on she lain down for a nap.
(b) Naila was so exhausted that on she laid down for a nap.
(c) Naila was so exhausted that on she was lying down for a nap.
(d) Naila was so exhausted that on she will lay down for a nap.

ANSWER: (b)

Q 4) Choose the correct sentence.

- (a) How long are you wearing glasses?
(b) How long do you wear glasses?
(c) How long are you wear glasses?
(d) How long have you been wearing glasses?

ANSWER: (d)

Q 5) Choose the correct sentence.

- (a) The village folk were present.
(b) The village folk was present
(c) The village folks were present
(d) The village folks was present

ANSWER: (a)

Q 6) Every person must learn _____.

- (a) That how wisely his time can be used.
(b) To make wise use of his time.
(c) That his time needs a wise uses.
(d) To using his time in a wisely manner.

ANSWER: (b)

Q 7) Katherine made her children _____ chores on Sunday

- (a) Make some (d) Take some
(c) Do some (c) Does some

ANSWER: (c)

Q 8) I always _____ defy any authoritarianism

- (a) Have always will (b) Have and will
(c) Have defied and always will
(d) Haven't but will

ANSWER: (b)

ETEA MEDICAL PAPER YEAR 2016

Q 9) As you have not prepared your work, _____.

- (a) You may not fail in the examination
(b) You could prepare harder next time
(c) You would do better in the examination

(d) You are not likely to do well this time

ANSWER: (d)

ETEA MEDICAL PAPER YEAR 2015

Q 10) Choose the correct sentence:

- (a) He throwed it out the window
(b) He threw it out the window
(c) He thrown it out the window
(d) He threwn it out the window

ANSWER: (b)

Q 11) He was _____ in bed all day yesterday.

- (a) Laying (b) Lying
(c) Lieing (d) Lied

ANSWER: (b)

ETEA MEDICAL PAPER YEAR 2014

Q 12) I eagerly look forward _____ seeing you again.

- (a) at (b) to (c) on (d) by

ANSWER: (b)

ETEA MEDICAL PAPER YEAR 2011

Q 13) She has let _____ her house fully furnished to a Korean couple.

- (a) out (b) at (c) up (d) in

HINT: "let out" means to give a building on rent.

ANSWER: (a)

Q 14) You can always count on me. I will not let you _____.

- (a) alone (b) down (c) off (d) through

HINT: "let you down" means to disappoint someone

ANSWER: (b)

Q 15) Styles _____ popular in the 1960s are reappearing in high fashion boutiques.

- (a) what have been (b) which have been
(c) that have been (d) that were

HINT: "that were" is correct choice as it makes the sentence in Past Tense.

ANSWER: (d)

Q 16) Waseem _____ this him as MD for many years, but he is rather unhappy with his salary

- (a) is working in (b) is serving
(c) is working for (d) has been working

HINT: Present Perfect Continuous Tense.

ANSWER: (d)

Q 17) Tahira as well as her brother _____ responsible for the loss and they must be made to make up for it:

- (a) is (b) are (c) were (d) have been

HINT: "as well as" can't make the nouns plural and that's why "is" is the correct choice.

ANSWER: (a)

Q 18) She _____ her parents. They must be worried about her health.

- (a) had better call (b) had better called
(c) had better to call (d) better call

ANSWER: (a)

Lesson No. 3 Exercise MCQs

Exercise 3.1

Fill in each blank with the correct word as given in bracket.

- Q 1) He was taken _____ in the middle of the night. (bad, badly)
Q 2) My mother works _____ to support the family. (hard, hardly)
Q 3) I carried the statue _____ in both hands. (careful, carefully)
Q 4) The medical supplies were growing _____. (scarce, scarcely)
Q 5) She turned round, looking _____. (fierce, fiercely)
Q 6) The room was small and _____ dusty. (seeming, seemingly)
Q 7) We tried to keep him _____ and happy. (cheerful, cheerfully)
Q 8) We were getting quite _____ at putting up fences. (quick, quickly)
Q 9) The leader spoke in a somewhat _____ tone. (impatient, impatiently)
Q 10) All of us were _____ impressed with her performance. (over, overly)

Exercise 3.2

Fill in the blanks with **is** or **are**.

- Q 11) The deer _____ fighting.
Q 12) The natives of this island _____ a friendly people.
Q 13) Here _____ some work for you to do.
Q 14) A pair of gloves _____ what they have been looking for the whole hour.
Q 15) The twin _____ born at the same time as the other.
Q 16) _____ your parent home?
Q 17) There _____ a large amount of flour in the sack.
Q 18) Liverpool _____ a great football team.
Q 19) One of his brothers _____ getting married.
Q 20) The rug _____ covered with cat hairs.

Exercise 3.4

- Q. 1) Which of the sentences is correct?
(a) Last year I go to India.
(b) Last year I went to India.
(c) Last year I am going to India.
(d) Last year I will go to India.
- Q. 2) Which of the sentences is correct?
(a) I usually getting the bus to work.
(b) I usually gets the bus to work.
(c) I am usually getting the bus to work.
(d) I usually get the bus to work.
- Q. 3) Which of the sentences is correct?
(a) Next week I am going to the cinema.
(b) Next week I will going to the cinema.
(c) Next week I is going to the cinema.

Exercise 3.3

Fill in each blank with the past participle form of the irregular verb as given in bracket.

- Q 21) He was almost _____ (hit) by a taxi as he was crossing the street.
Q 22) The hotel in the distance could hardly be _____ (see) because of the haze.
Q 23) John said he had not _____ (sleep) for forty hours.
Q 24) She felt she could have _____ (weep) for joy if she had heard the news earlier.
Q 25) It was reported that one of the kids had _____ (fall) into the river.
Q 26) Maradona was _____ (forbid) from leaving the country.
Q 27) Their cat was badly _____ (bite) by a dog.
Q 28) We were all _____ (swear) to secrecy about the plan.
Q 29) A Christmas message was _____ (broadcast) to the nation.
Q 30) The ship had _____ (sink) without trace.
Q 31) He had a newspaper _____ (spread) open on his knee.
Q 32) No one was seriously _____ (hurt) in the accident.
Q 33) His words were carefully _____ (choose) to convey the right message.
Q 34) Their share of the market has _____ (shrink) from 14% to 5%.
Q 35) The men who robbed the bank are _____ (know) to the police.
Q 36) The pond had _____ (freeze) solid.
Q 37) They have _____ (dig) deep for buried treasure.
Q 38) His clothes were badly _____ (tear).
Q 39) The gang had already _____ (flee) when the police arrived.
Q 40) She has just _____ (come) out of a coma.

(d) Next week I went to the cinema.

- Q. 4) Which verb is NOT in the past tense?
(a) He walked. (b) He went.
(c) He works. (d) He bought.
- Q. 5) Which verb is NOT in the present tense?
(a) She listened. (b) She talks.
(c) She waits. (d) She watches.
- Q. 6) Which verb is NOT in the future tense?
(a) He will go. (b) He will come.
(c) He will arrive. (d) He leaves.
- Q. 7) What tense is the verb in this sentence? 'I got home from work at 6.30pm.'
(a) present (b) past
(c) Future

- Q. 8)** What tense is the verb in this sentence? 'The children are playing outside.'
 (a) future (b) simple past
 (c) present (d) present continuous
- Q. 9)** What tense is the verb in this sentence? 'I'll take you in my car.'
 (a) future (b) present
 (c) past
- Q. 10)** What tense is the verb in this sentence? 'They go to college on Mondays.'
 (a) past (b) future
 (c) simple present (d) present perfect

Exercise 3.5

- Q. 11)** Which tense would you use for describing last year's holiday?
 (a) Past (b) Present
 (c) Future
- Q. 12)** Which tense would you use for talking about next weekend?
 (a) Past (b) Present
 (c) Future
- Q. 13)** Which tense would you use for talking about your daily routine?
 (a) Past (b) Present
 (c) Future
- Q. 14)** Which tense would you use for talking about your childhood?
 (a) Past (b) Present (c) Future
- Q. 15)** Which tense would you use for talking about the area where you live?
 (a) Past (b) Present (c) Future
- Q. 16)** What is the tense of this question? Did you go to the chemist's on your way home?
 (a) Past perfect (b) Past continuous
 (c) simple past
- Q. 17)** What is the tense of this question? Was there anybody in when you called?
 (a) Past (b) Present
 (c) Future Past.
- Q. 18)** What is the tense of this question? Will Tom be able to mend that broken window?
 (a) Past (b) Present
 (c) Future
- Q. 19)** What is the tense of this question? What are the shops like around here?
 (a) Past (b) Present (c) Future
- Q. 20)** What is the tense of this question? What will you do when this course finishes?
 (a) Past (b) Present (c) Future Past.

Exercise 3.6

- Q. 21)** 'Drove' is the past of 'drive'.
 (a) True (b) False
- Q. 22)** 'Felt' is the past of 'fill'.
 (a) True (b) False

- Q. 23)** 'Was' is the past of 'is'.
 (a) True (b) False
- Q. 24)** 'Shut' is the past of 'shout'.
 (a) True (b) False
- Q. 25)** 'Taught' is the past of 'teach'.
 (a) True (b) False
- Q. 26)** Which word goes in the gap? ____ you come again tomorrow?
 (a) Did (b) Do (c) Will
- Q. 27)** Which word goes in the gap? ____ you hear the thunder last night?
 (a) Did (b) Do (c) Will
- Q. 28)** Which word goes in the gap? ____ you eat meat every day?
 (a) Did (b) Do (c) Will
- Q. 29)** Which word goes in the gap? How many times a week ____ your family eat together these days?
 (a) did (b) do (c) does
- Q. 30)** Which word goes in the gap? At what time ____ the children start school in the mornings?
 (a) did (b) do (c) does

Lesson No. 3 Exercise Answers

Answers 3.1

1. He was taken in the middle of the night.	2. My mother works to support the family.
3. I carried the statue in both hands.	4. The medical supplies were growing
5. She turned round, looking	6. The room was small and dusty.
7. We tried to keep him and happy.	8. We were getting quite at putting up fences.
9. The leader spoke in a somewhat tone.	10. All of us were impressed with her performance.

Answers 3.2

11. The deer are fighting.	12. The natives of this island are a friendly people.
13. Here is some work for you to do.	14. A pair of gloves is what they have been looking for the whole hour.
15. The twin is born at the same time as the other.	16. Is your parent home?
17. There is a large amount of flour in the sack.	18. Liverpool are a great football team.
19. One of his brothers is getting married.	20. The rug is covered with cat hairs.

Answer 3.3

21. He was almost hit by a taxi as he was crossing the street.	22. The hotel in the distance could hardly be seen because of the haze.
23. John said he had not slept for forty hours.	24. She felt she could have wept for joy if she had heard the news earlier.
25. It was reported that one of the kids had fallen into the river.	26. Maradona was forbidden from leaving the country.
27. Their cat was badly bitten by a dog.	28. We were all sworn to secrecy about the plan.
29. A Christmas message was broadcast to the nation.	30. The ship had sunk without trace.
31. He had a newspaper spread open on his knee.	32. No one was seriously hurt in the accident.
33. His words were carefully chosen to convey the right message.	34. Their share of the market has shrunk from 14% to 5%.
35. The men who robbed the bank are known to the police.	36. The pond had frozen solid.
37. They have dug deep for buried treasure	38. His clothes were badly torn.
39. The gang had already fled when the police arrived.	40. She has just come out of a coma.

Answer 3.4

1. Last year I went to India	2. I usually get the bus to work.	3. Next week I am going to the cinema.
4. He works.	5. She listened.	6. He leaves.
7. Simple past	8. Present continuous	9. Simple future
10. Simple present		

Answers 3.5

11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16. Simple	17.	18.	19.	20.
Past	Future	Present	Past	Present	past	Past	Future	Present	Future

Answers 3.6

21. True	22. False	23. True	24. False	25. True	26. Will	27. Did	28. Do	29. Do	30. Do
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