Tense (part 2) Madhabi Sarkar



The tense is the change of form in a verb to express the time of an action.

Lecture Sheet

English Language

Class: Four

2nd Term

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Lecture:2

THE SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE IS USED:

• To express habits, general truths, repeated actions or unchanging situations, emotions and wishes:

I smoke (habit); I work in London (unchanging situation); London is a large city (general truth)

• To give instructions or directions:

You walk for two hundred meters, then you turn left.

• To express fixed arrangements, present or future:

Your exam starts at 09.00

• <u>To express future time, after some conjunctions: after, when, before, as soon as, until:</u>

He'll give it to you when you come next Saturday.

THE SIMPLE PAST TENSE IS USED:

You always use the simple past when you say when something happened, so it is associated with certain past time expressions

• <u>a definite point in time: last week, when I was a child, yesterday, six</u> weeks ago

We saw a good film last week.

Yesterday, I arrived in Geneva.

She finished her work at seven o'clock

I went to the theatre last night

• an indefinite point in time: the other day, ages ago, a long time ago

People lived in caves a long time ago.

She played the piano when she was a child.

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THE SIMPLE FUTURE TENSE IS USED:

• To predict a future event:

It will rain tomorrow.

• With 'you' to give orders:

You will do exactly as I say.

• With 'you' in the interrogative form, to give an invitation:

Will you come to the dance with me?

Will you marry me?

What you have to do now

As you have learned the usages of simple present, past and future tense, now write down one sentence using each given condition above.