

T E N S E

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:3

The three perfect tenses:

Perfect tense definition: The perfect tense is a verb form that indicates a complete (“perfected”) action.

What is the past perfect tense: The past perfect most often expresses actions in the past that finished before another action (also in the past) started.

- ✓ To form the past perfect:

Subject + had + past participle of verb

- ✓ The past perfect is used to express:

completed action before another begins (both in past)

e.g. After she had called the doctor, she felt much better about her symptoms.

What is the present perfect tense: The present perfect tense expresses actions that happened at time that is not specific and actions that started in the past but continue to the present.

- ✓ To form the present perfect:

Subject + has/have + past participle of verb

- ✓ The present perfect is used to express:

actions in the past of indefinite time

e.g. I have visited this museum.

actions that started in the past but continue to present

e.g. My father has mentioned that to her before.

What is the future perfect tense: The future perfect tense expresses actions that will be finished at some point in the future.

- ✓ To form the future perfect:

Subject + will have + past participle of verb

- ✓ The future perfect is used to express:

actions that will be finished at some point

e.g. By the time your plane lands, we will have gone to sleep.

actions that occur in the future will continue beyond a certain point in the future

e.g. He will have studied in Paris for three years this spring.

Techniques to recognize the perfect tenses

Verbs in the perfect form use a form of "have" or "had" + the past participle. (It is the form of the helping verb that indicates the tense.)

Present Perfect: I have finished my homework already.

Past Perfect: He had watched TV for an hour before dinner.

Future Perfect: Nancy will have finished by the time her parents return.

	Present perfect	Past perfect	Future perfect
Perfect tenses	I have driven in snow many times. Have/has + past participle verb	It had already snowed before I left. Had + past participle verb	It will have snowed 6 inches by the end of the day. Will have + past participle verb

What you have to do now

Write 10 sentences for each tense. Use 10 different verbs to make these sentences.