

II-BA

IV-SEMESTER

NON- MAJOR ELECTIVE

MODERN ENGLISH AND USAGE-II (18K4EEL02)

UNIT-I (USE OF TENSES- FORM AND USE)

TENSES:

There are three tenses: the present, the past and the future. Each tense has four forms : simple, continuous, perfect, and perfect continuous.

Present Tense:

| | Active | passive |
|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Simple | I write a letter | A letter is written by me |
| Continuous | I am writing a letter | A letter is being written by me |
| Perfect | I have written a letter | A letter has been written by me |
| Perfect Continuous | I have been writing a letter | No passive voice |

Past tense:

| | Active | passive |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Simple | I wrote a letter | A letter was written by me |
| Continuous | I was writing a letter | A letter was being written by me |
| Perfect | I had written a letter | A letter had been written by me |
| Perfect Continuous | I had been writing a letter | No passive voice |

Future tense:

| | Active | passive |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Simple | I shall write a letter | A letter will be written by me |
| Continuous | I shall be writing a letter | No passive voice |
| Perfect | I shall have written a letter | A letter will have been written by me |
| Perfect Continuous | I shall have been writing a letter | No passive voice |

Simple Present Tense :

We use simple present tense :

(1) To express our thoughts and feelings:

We think alike.

I feel so.

I like the place.

(ii) To express that something happened all the time or repeatedly; or to indicate that facts and things are true for a long time irrespective of the time of action / speaking.

We go home every week end.

We all live in Bombay.

(iii) To suggest that something is true in general. Teachers educate children at school. The earth revolves around the sun.

(iv) To indicate the future meaning / action

The new academic year starts next month.

They are in Delhi next week.

(v) to make positive statements :

| | | |
|---------------------|-------|------------|
| I / we / you / they | Work | regularly. |
| He / she / it | works | |

(vi) to make negative statements and questions :

| | | |
|---------------------|---------|------------|
| I / we / you / they | don't | regularly. |
| He / she / it | doesn't | |

| | | |
|------|---------------------|-------|
| Do | I / we / you / they | Work? |
| Does | He / she / it | |

Simple present tense is also used with expressions like I promise, I apologize, I suggest, I advise, I agree etc.

I promise I will reach in time.

I advise that you should not participate in it.

I suggest that you continue with your project.

I apologize for my rude behavior.

Present Continuous Tense is used

(i) to indicate that an action has been started but has not yet been completed, i.e., we are in the middle of the action.

Work. Am /is / are+verb+ing indicate the present continuous.

I am playing

He is playing

They are playing

These examples indicate that the action is taking place at the present moment.

(ii) to refer to things happening in a short period around now or in the near future.

(for eg. today / this week / this evening)

I am leaving today.

Is he working this week?

We are all meeting this evening.

(iii) to indicate changes happening around now. The population of India is growing very fast.

Is your son getting better?

Present Perfect Tense:

It tells about the past and the present (She is searching for the book. She is unable to trace it.)
She has lost the book.

| | | |
|---------------------|------|--------------------|
| I / we / you / they | have | finished the work. |
| He / she / it | has | |

Present Perfect Tense is used :

(i) to indicate a recent happening

The police have arrested two terrorists.

He has just left for Mumbai.

(ii) to indicate a past happening with its impact / result continuing at present.

They have examined the matter in detail.

The tailor has stitched the shirt.

The boy has opened the door.

(iii) to indicate a period that continues until now (so far, since, recently, in the last few days, for the past five years, etc.)

I haven't met him in the last few years.

I have known him for the past ten years.

India has been independent since 1947.

(iv) with expressions like today / this morning / this week / this year.

I have taken ten cups of coffee today.

We have increased the rate of production this year.

They have not made a big profit this season.

(v) with expressions indicating the number of times something had happened.

It's the first time he has seen her. (Not sees)

I have lost my wrist-watch.

It's the second time this has happened. (not happens)

(vi) with already, just, yet, for, since, ever, this week, etc.

The boy has already left the place.

The train has just arrived at the platform (just means a short time ago).

It's midnight and haven't you slept yet.? (yet comes at the end of a negative sentence or a question)

I have slept for nearly two hours now. I have been to London this week.

Have you ever been there?

No, I have never been there.

Present Perfect Continuous Tense is used:

i) to indicate an action over a period of time up to the present.

I have been waiting here for two hours.

We have been living here for nearly twenty five years.

(ii) to indicate repeated action till now.

She has been dancing since she was eleven.

(iii) to indicate an action that ends just before the present.

I have been playing. Hence, I am tired now.

(iv) with since, for, how long, and recently.

They have been talking to us since morning.

We have been dancing for two hours now.

How long have you been learning English?

I have been working for TVS till recently.

Past simple

i) We use simple past for actions, finished at a definite time in the past.

We visited the Taj last year.

We arranged the function last month.

Columbus discovered America.

J.M.Baird invented Television.

(ii) The simple past tense indicates an action that has been terminated now.

He worked in Mumbai branch for two years. (now he is not working there)

(iii) It is used to indicate a habit in the past,

He always drove fast when he was young. (past habit)

He never smoked before his marriage.

Past Continuous Tense is used:

(i) to indicate an action that went on between two points of time.

He was visiting library regularly from the date of his joining duty to the day of his retirement.

(ii) to indicate the continuity of action at some time in the past.

When I arrived at the station, the train was moving.

When I stepped out of office, it was raining.

While we were listening to the radio, we heard the news.

Past Perfect Tense :

(i) When we talk about something that happened in the past we use simple past.

We arrived at the station.

(ii) When we talk about something that happened before this we use past perfect tense.

When we arrived at the station, the train had left and our friend had gone.

Here are some more examples:

I did not recognize him as I had never seen him before.

The room was dirty; they had not cleaned it for weeks.

By the time I reached home my friend had left.

Past Perfect Continuous Tense :

When we refer to something before a past action, we use the past perfect tense or past perfect continuous tense. We use past perfect continuous tense for an action which happened over a period of time

I had been waiting since 8 O'clock.

(The bus came at 10 o'clock.)

I had been waiting for two hours.

(I was very tired when I reached home in the evening.)

I had been working hard all day.

Future simple is used :

to indicate future time (near or remote).

I shall finish the work tomorrow.

Examination will be conducted next month.

The sport meet will be held on 12th Monday.

We will visit Haridwar during next summer.

Future Continuous Tense is used :

to indicate an action that will take place continuously over a period of time in the future. It suggests that at sometime in the future, we will be in the middle of an action.

I cannot attend the function as I will be working all day tomorrow.

When the children leave the school in the evening, the driver will be waiting for them.
What will we be doing in ten years' time, I wonder!

A casual meeting and an arranged meeting can be differentiated by the following two different usages.

I'll be meeting my mother next week. (Casual)

I am meeting my mother next week. (Arranged)

Future Perfect Tense :

Indicates action that will be completed in a given period of time in the future.

They will have qualified to take the degree by the end of April .

The cadets will have finished their training by the end of June.

Future perfect tense is normally used with the time expression beginning with by, by then, by that time, by 20th, etc.

Future Perfect Continuous Tense:

This tense can be used instead of the future perfect when the action is continuous.

will/should have been + present participle for the first persons.

will have been + present participle for the other persons.

By the end of the year I shall have been working in this university for 25 years. As in the future perfect, future perfect continuous tense is also used with the time expression beginning with by.

UNIT –II

USE OF CLAUSE – RELATIVE (GENERAL/PREPOSITIONS/PRONOUN/VERBS)

Relative pronouns and relative clauses

The relative pronouns are:

| Subject | Object | Possessive |
|---------|----------|------------|
| who | who/whom | whose |
| which | which | whose |
| that | that | - |

We use relative pronouns to introduce **relative clauses**. Relative clauses tell us more about people and things:

Lord Thompson, **who is 76**, has just retired.

This is the house **which Jack built**.

Marie Curie is the woman **that discovered radium**.

We use:

- who and whom for **people**
- which for **things**
- that for **people or things**.

TWO KINDS OF RELATIVE CLAUSE

There are two kinds of relative clause:

1. We use relative clauses to **make clear which** person or thing we are talking about:

Marie Curie is the woman **who discovered radium**.
This is the house **which Jack built**.

In this kind of relative clause, **we can use that** instead of who or which:

Marie Curie is the woman **that discovered radium**.
This is the house **that Jack built**.

We can **leave out** the pronoun **if it is the object** of the relative clause:

This is the house ~~that~~ **Jack built**. (that is the object of built)

Be careful!

The relative pronoun is the subject/object of the relative clause, so we **do not repeat** the subject/object:

Marie Curie is the woman **who ~~she~~ discovered radium**.
(who is the subject of discovered, so we don't need she)

This is the house **that Jack built it**.
(that is the object of built, so we don't need it)

2. We also use relative clauses to **give more information** about a person, thing or situation:

Lord Thompson, **who is 76**, has just retired.

We had fish and chips, **which I always enjoy**.

I met Rebecca in town yesterday, **which was a nice surprise**.

With this kind of relative clause, we use commas (,) to separate it from the rest of the sentence.

Be careful!

In this kind of relative clause, we **cannot use that**:

Lord Thompson, **who is 76**, has just retired.

Be careful!

(NOT ~~Lord Thompson, that is 76,~~ has just retired.)

and we **cannot** leave out the pronoun:

We had fish and chips, **which I always enjoy**.

(NOT ~~We had fish and chips, I always enjoy.~~)

WHOSE AND WHOM

We use **whose** as the **possessive** form of who:

This is George, **whose brother went to school with me**.

We sometimes use **whom** as the **object** of a verb or preposition:

This is George, **whom you met at our house last year**.

(Whom is the object of met)

This is George's brother, **with whom I went to school**.

(Whom is the object of with)

But nowadays we normally use who:

This is George, **who you met at our house last year**.

This is George's brother, **who I went to school with**.

RELATIVE PRONOUNS WITH PREPOSITIONS

When **who(m)** or **which** have a preposition, **the preposition can come at the beginning** of the clause:

I had an uncle in Germany, **from who(m) I inherited a bit of money**.

We bought a chainsaw, **with which we cut up all the wood**.

Or at the end of the clause:

I had an uncle in Germany, **who(m) I inherited a bit of money from**.

We bought a chainsaw, **which we cut all the wood up with**.

But when **that** has a preposition, **the preposition always comes at the end**:

I didn't know the uncle **that I inherited the money from**.
We can't find the chainsaw **that we cut all the wood up with**.

EXERCISE 1:

Select one or more pronouns which can complete the sentence:

1. I have an uncle _____ lives in California.
A. who B. whom C. whose
2. This is Mr and Mrs Andrews, _____ children I teach.
A. who B. whom C. whose
3. The man _____ I marry will have to be someone really special.
A. who B. whom C. whose
4. This is Harry; _____ went to school with me.
A. who B. whom C. whose
5. Unfortunately, my new boss is someone _____ I really dislike.
A. who B. whom C. whose
6. Yesterday I met a man _____ wife used to be my English teacher.
A. Who B. whom C. whose

Answers :1.who 2.whose 3.whom 4.who 5.whom 6.whose

WHEN AND WHERE

We can use when with times and where with places to **make it clear which time or place** we are talking about:

England won the World Cup in 1966. It was the year **when we got married**.
I remember my twentieth birthday. It was the day **when the tsunami happened**.

Do you remember the place **where we caught the train**?
Stratford-upon-Avon is the town **where Shakespeare was born**.

We can **leave out when**:

England won the World Cup in 1966. It was the year **we got married**.
I remember my twentieth birthday. It was the day **the tsunami happened**.

We often use quantifiers and numbers with relative pronouns:

all of which/whom

most of which/whom

many of which/whom

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| lots of which/whom | a few of which/whom | none of which/whom |
| one of which/whom | two of which/whom | etc. |

She has three brothers, **two of whom are in the army.**

I read three books last week, **one of which I really enjoyed.**

There were some good programs on the radio, **none of which I listened to.**

EXERCISE 2:

Write the missing words so that the second sentence means the same as the first.

1. Police believe this is the gun with which the murder was committed.

Police believe this is the gun _____ the murder was committed _____.

2. That's the actress about whom I was telling you last night.

That's the actress _____ I was telling you last night _____.

3. Spiders are the animals of which I'm most afraid.

Spiders are the animals _____ I'm most afraid _____.

4. My friend Rebecca lives in a flat for which her parents pay.

My friend Rebecca lives in a flat _____ her parents pay _____.

5. This is Will. He's a guy with whom I went to school.

This is Will. He's a guy _____ I went to school _____.

6. That's a photo of my grandmother, from whom I got my green eyes.

That's a photo of my grandmother, _____ I got my green eyes _____.

Answers:

1. Police believe this is the gun which the murder was committed with.

2. That's the actress whom I was telling you last night about

3. Spiders are the animals which I'm most afraid of.
4. My friend Rebecca lives in a flat which her parents pay for.
5. This is Will. He's a guy whom I went to school with.
6. That's a photo of my grandmother, whom I got my green eyes from.

UNIT-III

USE OF PREPOSITIONS

PREPOSITIONS:

Prepositions are generally used before nouns or pronouns to show the relationship between persons or objects indicating the place, position, time, method etc.

Prepositions indicating time:

1. In is used to denote a specific time, period, month and year.

(eg) in the evening; in winter; in May; in 1980; in the 21st century; in my absence; in the past.

In time and on time

In time means sufficiently early / early enough;

On time means at the right time.

(e.g.) We must hurry if we want to be in time for the show.

The meeting will definitely start on time.

2. On is used with dates and days

(e.g.) on Monday; on Tuesday evening; on the eve of New Year's day; on the 10th of May.

3. At is used with definite point of time

(e.g.) At six O' clock; at 8.30 a.m., at midnight; at noon.

4. By refers to the latest possible time of action

(e.g.) The function will be over by 5.00 p.m.

5. For and since are used to say how long a particular action has been happening.

for is used to indicate a period of time.

(Eg) for three hours; for six months; for ten years; for a long time

Since is used to say when something began (the start of a period).

since 10 O'clock; since June; since his death.

(e.g.) They are good friends. They have known each other for a long time.

They are good friends. They have known each other since they were at college.

I am very tired. I haven't slept for two days.

I am very tired. I haven't slept since Monday.

We watched the match for three hours yesterday.

It's five years since I finished my degree.

It's a long time since we met. We haven't met for a long time.

They have been playing cricket for three hours.

They have been playing cricket since 3 O'clock.

She has been dancing for thirty minutes on the stage.

They have been living here since 1995

We have known about the incident since Sunday,

6. From indicates the beginning of an action. It is used generally with to or till / until.

(e.g.) He will take up this job from the first of June to/ till the end of July

Prepositions indicating place / position

1. In and at

In normally refers to large places and big areas.

in Trichy; in England; in the office; in the college

At refers to smaller places or exact point

at Annanagar in Chennai, at the station; at the meeting

2. Above and over

Above is used in the sense of higher than

The kite is flying above the tree

Over can mean more than or higher than

The fan is over my head.

Sometimes above and over are used interchangeably to mean higher than

The aeroplane hovered above / over us.

Over can also mean covering.

The cloth is spread over the table.

All over is used to mean in every part of

This bank has branches all over India.

Both above and over can also be used to mean higher in rank.

Mr. Ram is over me (my immediate superior).

Over is also used with meals / food / drink.

We had a chat over a cup of coffee.

3. Below and under

Below and under are used to mean lower than.

His achievements are below our expectations.

We slept under the tree.

Under can indicate contact; below is used when there is space.

He always keeps the keys under the pillow.

We live on the third floor. She lives below us (second floor).

Below and under can mean junior in rank.

Mr.Ragu is under me. (I am his immediate superior)

4. Beneath

Beneath shows a lower position

The ground is wet beneath him.

He would consider it beneath his position to go to such places.

5. Between and among

Between is used with two persons or things and among with more than two

There is no quarrel between Ragu and Ramu.

The books are to be distributed among all the students of the class.

6. Beside and besides

Beside means by the side of

My son sits beside me

Besides means in addition to

Besides food, he takes fruits regularly.

Prepositions showing direction

1. At indicates aim
shot at the lion; threw at his face
2. To indicates movement from one place to another
We usually go to the stadium early in the morning.
3. Into indicates movement inside something/ entrance.
The stranger came into the office.
The burglars broke into the bank at midnight.
4. Towards refers to a particular direction
He is running towards the temple.
5. For denotes direction (of journey)
He left for London yesterday.
6. Along indicates the same direction
I walked along the street.
7. Across means from one side to another side
The bridge is built across the river.
8. Before denotes facing
I stood before the statue bewildered.
9. Behind means at the back of
My house is behind the temple.

10. After indicates following

The calf came running after the cow.

11. Through (entering from one end and coming out at the other, means of, by way of, as a result of)

The arrow pierced through the body.

The river Cauvery runs through Trichy.

The train rushed through the tunnel.

The bird flew through the open window.

I learnt of the change through a newspaper.

Understand the following usages

1. In is also used as follows

In silk, in pink, in uniform; in the sun; in the rain; in the open; in danger; in tears, in a hurry

2. On is also used in the following positions

On the bench; on the roof; on the hills; write on the paper, on this score; on his advice I acted; on the charge of murder, on tobacco; be on the advisory committee; be on the staff of the college; on foot; on duty; on fire; on sale

3. At is also used in the following:

at work, at dinner, at war, at rest, at ease, at studies; at the speed of, at the rate of

4. of

These are all the poems of Milton.

He relieved me of my anxiety.

He died of small - pox.

He was appreciated for the deed of courage.

They all live in the city of Bombay.

One of his sons donated the money.

The news of his failure shocked me.

5. By and with

By is used with an agent and with is used with an instrument

Caesar was stabbed by Brutus with a dagger.

6. Ago and before

ago is used with past. (past time measured from the present)

He completed his studies three months ago.

He left the office just a few minutes ago.

Before (not ago) is used with the past perfect.

John finally received a reply to the letter he had written three months before.

They had sold their house two years before.

7. During and while

During comes before a phrase

It all happened during the night.

They were chatting during the meal.

While comes before a clause :

I usually read newspapers while taking breakfast.

It happened while they were away.

8. By or until

He should have done the work by now.

I shall pay the money back by next monday.

He will stay here until the bell rings.

I shall have no time until next Sunday.

9. As or like

We cannot come as it is raining,

As I told you earlier,

I am not interested in this business.

I am using this wagon as my house.

He works as a clerk in this office.

She behaves like a child.

He talks like a saint.

We drive on the left here, as / like you do in London.

10. Way and end

I will get it repaired on the way (during the journey).

The car is parked in the way (blocking the way).

I bought the pink one in the end. (finally)

We left the hall only at the end of the show. (after it was over)

Read the following sentences to understand the use of prepositions

1. The warden is expected to take care of the children in the hostel.
2. The teacher was angry with him for his misbehavior.
3. The boys are quarrelling with each other over a trivial matter.
4. The jailor is charged with corruption.
5. We have no pity for the lazy and the idle.
6. He expressed regret for his misbehavior.
7. I want to share my property with all my relatives.
8. Every one is afraid of death.
9. People are hardly aware of the fact.
10. The party people are busy with their electioneering,
11. I take great delight in horse-riding.
12. The robber relieved him of all his belongings.
13. It's ages since we went to the theatre.
14. The basket is full of flowers.
15. Don't prevent him from his Endeavour.
16. The minister presented him with a medal.
17. I am a regular subscriber to this journal.
18. Aurangzeb was confined to prison for several years.
19. The student is accompanied by her father.
20. I sympathized with him in his misfortune.
21. I am very much obliged to you for your help.
22. I cannot agree to what you propose.
23. I cannot agree with what you say.
24. I called on the officer at his office.

25. The police are inquiring into the matter.
26. A judicial enquiry has been ordered by the government.
27. Are you not ashamed of your behavior?
28. Are you fond of coffee?
29. How many of you are ready for the picnic?
30. Who volunteers to lead the team?
- 31) I returned the book to the library by my brother.
- 32) The headmaster sent a circular by an attender.
- 33) He had two sons by his first wife.
- 34) Gandhi is considered the father of our nation.
- 35) I rented a room for my stay there.

Fill in the blanks with correct prepositions:

1. The work would be over -- September.
2. I met him -- seven o'clock.
3. The meeting is fixed -- Thursday.
4. He conducted the session -- the evening.
5. He will be away -- the week end.
6. He left for Delhi -- the noon -- June 1st.
7. I lived there -- five years.
8. He is known to me -- his childhood.
9. I shall be -- leave -- tomorrow.
10. I have been indisposed -- Monday.
11. I have -- open an account -- the bank.
12. Are you keen -- dancing?
13. He seized me -- the arm.
14. Children are fond -- toys.
15. My teacher was displeased -- my handwriting.
16. He is known -- his wisdom.
17. I do not agree -- him fully.

18. He was found eligible -- the post by the committee.

19. I prefer tea -- coffee.

20. The prisoner attempted -- escape.

Answers:

1.in, 2.at, 3.on, 4.in, 5.at, 6.in,on, 7.for, 8.since, 9.on, from, 10.since, 11.to, in 12.on, 13.by,
14.of, 15.with, 16.for, 17.with, 18.for, 19.to, 20.to