

LESSON NOTE ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE WEEK 9

SUBJECT: English Language
TOPIC: Grammar: Verb Tenses
CLASS: JS1
WEEK: 9

DEFINITION OF TENSE

Tense is a term used to describe the form taken by a verb to indicate the time an action was done.

There are nine tenses, but we shall talk about a few:

1. The simple present tense

The simple present tense is used to express a habitual (regular) action.

Examples:

- a) I jog every morning.
- b) Ade jogs every morning.
- c) You jog every Sunday.
- d) Victor, Peter and Paul (they) jog every morning.

NOTE: The simple present tense is often used with adverbs like sometimes, always, every day, etc.

2. The simple past tense

The simple past tense is used to describe/express an action or event that occurred/happened in the past.

Examples:

- a) I went to school yesterday.
- b) He spent his last holiday in England.
- c) Kola jumped over the low wall.

Adverbs like: yesterday, last night, early morning, etc. can also be used to tell us when the action happened.

3. The simple future tense

The simple future tense is used to show an action that will happen at some time in the future. In the simple future tense, the action has not yet happened but will happen at a time in the future.

The future tense is formed by adding the modal auxiliary verb *shall or will* and the base form of the verb being used.

Examples:

- a) I/we shall leave for Kano tomorrow.
- b) He/she/you/it will leave for Kano tomorrow.

NOTE: In the future tense, when the subject is I or we, we use **shall** but when the subject is he, she, you, it, they and all nouns take **will** after them.

VERB FORMS

REGULAR AND IRREGULAR VERBS

Regular verbs are verbs which form their past tense by simply adding *d* or *ed* to the main verb.

Examples:

Verbs stem	simple past tense form
Arrive	arrived
Wait	waited, etc.

Irregular verbs are verbs which form their past tense forms in others ways.

Verbs stem	simple past tense form
Go	went
Speak	spoke
Cut	cut, etc.

NOTE: singular verbs add 's' to the verb stem. Examples: jogs, washes, dances, cuts, etc. while plural verbs do not add 's' to the verb stem. Examples: jog, wash, dance, cut, etc.

HOMEWORK

1. Write out twenty regular verbs with their past tense and past participle form
2. Write out twenty irregular verbs with their past tense and past participle form