

# Teaching the ‘Soul of English Language’ to the Learners’ of Schools: Bangladesh Perspective

Md. Solaiman

Assistant Professor, Department of English,  
City University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

**Abstract:- Tense is called the soul of English Language (Hossain: 2000). It means the time, period or duration of any actions. Tense identifies the time of actions that happen as an accident or incident. Understanding Tense for a fresher is not so easy if it is not properly designed. The words ‘Tense’ is derived from Latin word ‘tempus’ which mean time (Agarwal: 2016). It is Tense that assumes an indispensable part in developing meaning. It is thought confidently that the present methods of the available books are considered as the toughest methods to the learners. The students fall in a hard situation to memorize the forms and structures frequently. And in that way it is quite difficult to compare one structure with other or others. That’s why it has been arranged in a new method such as Present Indefinite, Past Indefinite and Future Indefinite. The purpose of this paper and its graphical design is to convey the learners the proper ideas on Tense according to the newly designed style. The given style will provide 80% easy method to the students to obtain proper and long lasting knowledge on Tense. The APA style manual is followed for the research and the teaching method is found as fruitfully effective for the students as it is expected.**

**Keywords:- Soul, Learning Tense, Effective Method, Tense Formula.**

## I. INTRODUCTION

Tense is an important aspect of English Language. Students without having the proper knowledge of Tense are quite unable to communicate with each other. It is much more important for the people to communicate with international community. “Tense, in grammar, is a verbal category relating the time of a narrated event to the time of the speech event. In many languages the concept of time is expressed not by the verb but by other parts of speech (temporal adverbials or even nouns, for example). Time is frequently perceived as a continuum with three main divisions: past, present, and future. The past and future times are defined in relation to the present time (now). Past tense refers to any time before the present time, and future tense refers to any time after the present. Not all languages perceive this relationship as a linear one, nor do these categories characterize all possible times. Tense, then, is a grammatical expression of time reference. The correlation between tense and time is not necessarily one-to-one; languages do not recognize as many oppositions of tense as they have conceptions of time. English has past, present, and future times, but only a past and a non past opposition of tense.” (Chauhan: 2011). It can be identified by the

changing of the form of a verb. For instance, *be* is used as *am*, *is*, and *are* in present tense, and *was* and *were* in past tense. In English, future tense is shown by adding *will* before the verb. For example, *be* becomes *will be* in future tense. Each main tense can also be classified into different kinds. They are formed by adding "helping words" or "auxiliary words", such as *be* and *have*, before the verb. For example, "I give", "I have given", "I am giving", and "I have been giving" are all in present tense, but have different meanings. Grammatically, it is termed aspect. According to SIL Glossary of Linguistic Terms, “Tense is a grammatical category, typically marked on the verb, that deictically refers to the time of the event or state denoted by the verb in relation to some other temporal reference point.”

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

According to BLTC, “There is no denying the fact that the English language has become the dominant language around the world. Since it is also important as a global language of business, it is necessary to develop the effective communication skills of English language.” (BLTC: 2017)

Effective communication skills of English language are necessary for the people of all professions. The concept of English verb tenses is very important in establishing effective communication. Hence, if you want to maintain both ways of communication better, that is, speaking and writing. You need to gain mastery over English tenses, because a command of twelve basic tenses of English language will aid you immensely in gaining effective communication skills. The term, tense, has been derived from the Latin word “*tempus*” meaning time. Since there are many ways in which we express the time of action, we use tenses. If anyone is still wondering why verb tenses are important, then let’s walk through the different types of tenses and how they can be used to effectively communicate with other people. After all, the goal of this post is to understand the important verb tenses that will help you in businesses and daily life. Where does the word ‘tense’ come from? Understanding where words come from will help you remember why they’re important. You can quickly recall the value of a verb tense by memorizing that it comes from the Latin word *tempus*, meaning time. With the English verb tense lists below, you’ll be able to quickly understand how to communicate about different events in time. (Lingua Link DC: 2016) The concept of English verb tenses is

very important in establishing effective communication. Hence, if you want to maintain both ways of communication better, that is, speaking and writing.(Tips:2015) We can't deny the fact that the English language has become the dominant language around the world that's why effective communication skills of English language are necessary for the people of all professions. (ISSUU: 2019)

### III. METHODOLOGY

Tense is a complex matter to the students of Bangladesh. Primary data is used in most of the cases. Some secondary data has been included with primary data. The tables and the graphs are designed on the basis of the easiest and fruitful way of teaching to the students that is proved to the researchers. Several tables and graphs are used to make the sense clear. The researcher expects to spread his ideas to all the academicians as well as the students.

### IV. RESULTS

It can be confidently expected that the mentioned method is more significant to the students of schools, colleges and universities (as fundamental course of English as foreign language) than other available methods. It can also be highly expected that this method will help the pupils, especially, the students of Bangladesh to have a deep knowledge on Tense in the most effective and ordered way. The teachers' will also be able to have a sound method to teach the students easily and effectively.

#### Forms of Verbs

To understand Tense easily and effectively and to speak in English one must know how to utilize verbs properly. A single word or a group of words (phrase) describing an action, state or happening can be termed as a verb. Usually, we use verbs in five forms as given below:

<i>Verbs of these types are used in Present Indefinite and Future Indefinite Tense.</i>	<i>Verbs to be used in Past Indefinite Tense.</i>	<i>Verbs to be used in Present/Past/Future Perfect Tense</i>	<i>Verbs of these types are used in Present Indefinite (in case of 3<sup>rd</sup> person and singular number)</i>	<i>Verbs to be used in Simple Present Tense/ Past Tense /Future Continuous Tense.</i>
<b>Present Indefinite/Base/Simple/Root form</b>	<b>Past Form of Verbs</b>	<b>Past Participle form</b>	<b>s/es/ies include form</b>	<b>Present Participle or 'ing' form</b>
Read	Read	Read	Reads	Reading
Write	Wrote	Written	Writes	Writing
Play	Played	Played	Plays	Playing
Go	Went	Gone	Goes	Going
Cry	Cried	Cried	Cries	Crying
Research	Researched	Researched	Researches	Researching
Reveal	Revealed	Revealed	Reveals	Revealing
Run	Run	Run	Runs	Running
Recite	Recited	Recited	Recites	Reciting
Request	Requested	Requested	Requests	Requesting

Table 1

#### Tense is of three types. These are:

1. Present Tense
2. Past Tense
3. Future Tense

**Present Tense:** "It refers as present to the duration around the happening of writing or speaking (time around now) and to general and permanent time. The two most common ways to refer to present time are the present simple for general facts and regular events, and the present continuous for an event happening now." (cambridge.org)

**The past** is used for anything that happened before this moment in time, or *what you did some time back*. It is

also used to discuss on the hypothesis and for politeness." (britishcouncil.org)

**The future tense** is used for anything that will happen at some point later than right now, or *what you will do some time later*. In modern English, future tense doesn't use rather people tend to use different sentence pattern to express their future activities." (Cambridge.org & Britishcouncil.org)

Again, every division of tense has its four forms. They are:

Tense	Forms			
Present	Indefinite	Continuous	Perfect	Perfect Continuous
Past	Indefinite	Continuous	Perfect	Perfect Continuous
Future	Indefinite	Continuous	Perfect	Perfect Continuous

Fig 1

➤ Indefinite Tenses

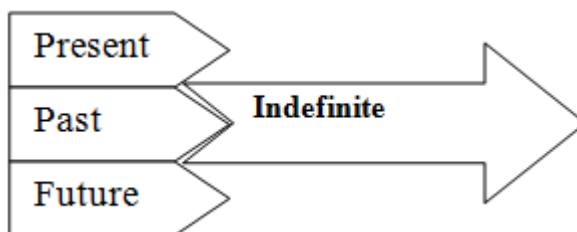


Fig 2

The Indefinite Tenses		
Tenses	Example	Meaning
Present Indefinite or Simple Present	a) It rains in Bangladesh. b) Solaiman recites poem every day.	In general, the simple present expresses events or situations that exist <i>always, usually, habitually</i> : they exist <i>now</i> , have existed in the past and will probably exist in the future. (Azar: 1999)
Past Indefinite or Simple Past	a) It rained in Bangladesh yesterday. b) Solaiman recited poem every day.	This occurred at one particular time in the past. It began and ended in the past.
Future Indefinite or Simple Future	a) It will snow tomorrow in Bangladesh. b) Solaiman will recite the poems tomorrow.	This will happen at a particular time in future

Fig 3

Source: (Azar: 1999)

**Present Indefinite or Simple Present:**

*Present Indefinite Tense* denotes an action in the present time or habitual truth or eternal truth. (Das: 2013)

**Structure:** Subject + Present form of verb + object/extension (for affirmative)

(To make question, we put auxiliary ‘do’ or ‘does’ before the subject and keep the base form of verb. In present Indefinite tense we use ‘s’/‘es’ after the main verb when the subject is used as 3<sup>rd</sup> person and singular in number. We use ‘s’ or ‘es’ after the auxiliary ‘do’ in case of negation or interrogation. And to make negative sentences, we put do not/ does not after the subject and keep the verb as it is.)

- I go to school. I eat rice. You can play football. He goes to school.
- She does not eat rice. We do not go to school.
- Does Mahmud go to school regularly? Do they submit sales report due time?

**Present Indefinite Tense is usually used in the following cases:**

**Iterative Present or Repetitive Present:**

- They keep the bus in the field..
- The train to Dhaka leaves 30 minutes.
- He sleeps eight hours during holiday.
- He comes here every Friday.

**To mean facts.**

- He comes at every Friday to visit us.
- Lata does not love him.
- Solaiman gets us early in the morning.

**To express habitual facts.**

- Kamrul likes to play music.
- Nazmul brushes the floor.
- Bablu and Babu wander at every evening.

**For universal truth.**

- Every mother loves her child.
- The golden sun sets in the West.
- The day comes after night.

**Few words are followed by the present tense: (often, sometimes, occasionally, always, on weekend, regularly etc)**

- On weekend, I go for a hangout with friends.
- The boy goes to school regularly. He visits his relatives occasionally.

The multiple polysemantic essence of the present tense merits close attention to the problem of synonymy in grammar. In this term, present tense can be characterized by distinguishing meaning into 2 types. One is *Inclusive Present* which indicates primary denotative meaning i.e. *I see an airplane* and *Exclusive Present* which indicates secondary syntagmatic meaning i.e. *I start tomorrow*. Here future meaning represents in present tense structure. (M.N. Rayevska)

**Conjugation of Verb**

The present tense is formed with the main form of the infinitive:

Subject	Verb	The Rest of the sentence
They / we / I / You/ they	speak / learn	Bengali at home
She / he / it/	speaks / learns	Hindi at home

The use of 's' or 'es' in the third person varies in response to the end of the verb

1. For verbs that end in *-O*, *-CH*, *-SH*, *-SS*, *-X*, or *-Z* we add *-ES* in the third person.

- go – goes, catch – catches, wash – washes, kiss – kisses, fix – fixes, buzz – buzzes

2. For verbs that end in a *consonant + Y*, we remove the *Y* and add *-IES*.

- marry – marries, study – studies, carry – carries, worry – worries

NOTE: For verbs that end in a *vowel + Y*, we just add *-S*.

- play – plays, enjoy – enjoys, say – says

**Past Indefinite or Simple Past:**

“Past Indefinite Tense is used to denote an action completed in the past or a past habit.” (Das: 2013)

**Structure of Simple Past:** Subject + Past form of verb + object/extension (for affirmative)

- She sang a song. I did the work. I ate rice. You played football.
- I walked five kilometers. She ate rice. I used to get up early in the morning.
- Mr. Rakib did not sign the proposal. She did not break the glass.

- Did he attend the last meeting? Didn't Mr. Naim pay the installment last month?

**Use of Past Indefinite:**

Phrases that refer the previous time and duration: (past event or date, yesterday, last night, last month, last week, before, ago, since)

- I met him yesterday. He died last night.
- The police caught the thief before. I saw him long ago.
- I signed the agreement last meeting.

To express the habitual fact of the past.

- He always carried an umbrella.
- The boy went to the class regularly.

If two things happened in the past then the second one becomes Past Indefinite.

- His father had died before *he came*.
- *The thief left* after the police had arrived at the spot.
- *The teacher punished the student* after he had found him guilty.

**Future Indefinite or Simple Future:**

“Future Indefinite Tense is used to when an action will be done or will happen in future.” (Das: 2013)

“In grammar, the future is the form of the verb used to talk about something that will happen.” (dictionary.cambridge.org)

“Everything that has not happened yet is part of the future. It might happen in a few seconds or minutes.” (fluentu.com)

In this sense we can use future sentence however it also refers future tense's uncertainty as well.

**Structure of Future Indefinite:** Subject + Shall/will + Present form of verb + object/extension

(To make negative, we put 'not' after the auxiliary.

And to make interrogative, we bring the auxiliary before the subject and add a question mark at the ending position of a sentence.)

- We shall/will go to school. You will not play football. I will join the work next week.
- They will not go to watch movie. She will eat rice. Will they go to school?

**Use of Future Indefinite**

When any action is going to happen in future. For example: *She will return home. The boy will go to school.*

- Modal auxiliary 'have to/has to' before principal verb or main verb gives the future meaning. For example: *I have to go to Dhaka. She has to submit assignment within two days.*
- Certain phrases that seek the use of future simple tense: those are; Possibly, tomorrow, perhaps, after a while, probably, within a few days.
- If the conditional sentence begins with present indefinite, the next sentence will be future indefinite. For example: if you come, I *will go*.

‘Will’ is used in the most insecure form in future tense. (teachingenglish.org.uk) i.e. in the following cases;

- -To mean Offers i.e. shall we give you a glass of water?
- To express promises: I will do the work for you, of course.
- - To mean predictions in a distant future (because you are not sure what will really happen) i.e. "One day I will be a good man"

Whereas ‘Going to’ is used in certain fact.

- - planned decisions i.e. "I use to drink tea. I am going to have some tea"

➤ Continuous

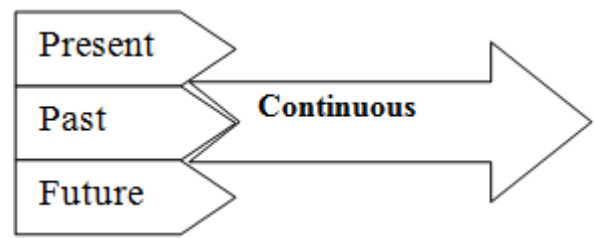


Fig 4

The Continuous Tenses at a glance		
Continuous Tenses	Examples	Meaning
Present Continuous	a) Solaiman is Sleeping right now.	Solaiman went to sleep.He is still asleep. His sleep began in the past, is in progress at the present time, and probably will continue.
Past Continuous	a) Solaiman was sleeping when I arrived.	Solaiman went to sleep last night. The man was still asleep. His sleep began before and was in progress at a particular time in the past. It continued after my arrived.
Future Continuous	a) Solaiman will be sleeping when we arrive.	Solaiman will go to sleep at 10:00 tomorrow night. We will arrive at 11:00. The action of sleeping will begin before we arrive, and it will be in progress at a particular time in future. Probably his sleep will continue.

Fig 5

Source: (Azar: 1999)

**Present Continuous Tense:**

Present Continuous Tense is used when an action is continued or going to be continued in near future.

(To make negative, put ‘not’ after the auxiliary and to make interrogative sentences, put ‘am/is/are’ before the subject and add a sign of interrogation at the end of the sentence.)

**Structure of Present Continuous:**

Subject + are/am/is + (ing with main verb) + object / extension.

Subjects and Auxiliaries used in Present Continuous Tense			
I	Am	We	Are
You	Are	He	Is
She	Is	They	Are
It	Is	Shuvo/ The man/Parvin	Is

Fig 6

- Mamata is going to school. Rahul and Robi is playing cricket. You are playing football.
- He is going to school. She is eating rice. We are going to school
- We are not eating rice. They are not eating rice. I am not sleeping.
- Are you submitting your assignment today? Is she enjoying this journey?

-ING and -ED forms (in Spelling)		
Nature Of Verbs	Examples	Action
Verbs that end in -A CONSONANT - and -E	Hope hoping hoped Date dating dated Injure injuring injured	-ING form: If the word ends in <i>-e</i> , drop the <i>-e</i> and add <i>-ing</i> . -ED form: If the word ends in <i>a consonant</i> and <i>-e</i> , just add <i>-d</i>
Verbs end in a Vowel and a Consonant.	<b>One-syllable verbs</b> Stop stopping stopped Rob robbing robbed	1 vowel 2 consonants**
	<b>One-syllable verbs</b> Rain raining rained Fool fooling fooled	2 vowels 1 Consonants
	<b>Two-syllable verbs</b> Listen listening listened Offer offering offered Open opening opened	1 <sup>st</sup> syllable stressed = 1 consonant
	<b>Two-syllable verbs</b> Prefer preferring preferred Control controlling controlled Transfer Transferring Transferred	2 <sup>nd</sup> syllable stressed = 2 consonants
Verbs that end in -Two Consonants	Start starting started Fold folding folded Point pointing pointed	If the word ends in <i>two consonants</i> , just add the ending.
Verbs ends in -Y	Enjoy enjoying enjoyed Play playing played Pray praying prayed	As <i>-y</i> is preceded by <i>a vowel</i> , keep the <i>-y</i>
	Study studying studied Cry crying cried Try trying tried Reply replying replied	When <i>-y</i> is preceded by <i>a consonant</i> ,  -ING form: keep the <i>-y</i> , add <i>-ing</i> -ED form: Change <i>-y</i> into <i>-i</i> , add <i>-ed</i>
The verbs that end in -IE	Tie tying tied Lie lying lied	-ING form: Change <i>-ie</i> to <i>-y</i> , add <i>ing</i> . -ED forms: Add <i>-d</i>

Fig 7

\* **Exception:** If a verb ends in *-ee*, the final *-e* is not dropped: see-seeing, agree-agreeing, free-freeing.

\*\* **Exception:** *-w* and *-x* are not doubled: **plow-plowed, fix-fixed.**

#### Use of Present Continuous Tense

- To depict an action that is going on at this moment present continuous tense is used. For example: *I am writing with a pen. You are teaching Arabic language.*
- To express an action in the future that has already been planned we use present continuous tense. For example: *We're going on holiday tomorrow. Are they visiting you next winter?*

We do not use some verbs in the progressive form because they refer to *states*. They are usually used in simple present form. Those are; To feel, to like, to love, to fear, to hate, to smell, to see, to want, to assume, to believe, to seem etc. For example:

**Incorrect:** I am seeing a bird. I am loving him. It is seeming costly.

**Correct:** I see a bird. I love him. It seems costly.

However, in modern spoken English, these verbs can be used in progressive form, i.e. *I am feeling better.*

- Using with *Always*: There is an exceptional use of *always*. In present simple tense it gives us meaning of regularity that happens every time. But in present continuous tense it gives us meaning of "very often" or "too often"

Example: He always use quotes from Shakespeare in his lecture. (Every lecture)

He is always quoting from Shakespeare in his lecture. (Very often)

#### Past Continuous:

We use Past Continuous tense when the action was continued for some time in the past.

**Structure:** Subject + was/were + (ing with main verb) + object / extension.

(To make negative, put 'not' after the auxiliary and to make interrogative sentences, put 'was/were' before the subject and add a question mark at the end of the sentence.)

Subjects and Auxiliary verbs used Past Continuous Tense			
I	Was	We	Were
You	Were	He	Was
She	Was	They	Were
It	Was	Shuvo / The man/The girl	Was

Fig 8

- Ratan was going to school. I was eating mango. You were playing football.
- He was reading a book. Shama was eating rice. We were going to school.
- We were not eating rice. They were not playing football. They were not sleeping.
- Was he reading a novel? Were they having fun? Was Shuvo enjoying the match?

**Use of Past Continuous**

- We use Past Continuous tense to express an action that was happening during a certain point of time in the past. For example: Hisham was reading, Tom was playing football.
- In case of notice marking words that identify the verb and tense as past continuous: *at that moment, all day long, during summer, while, when, all the time, the whole morning, at 6:00 o'clock yesterday* and others. For example: *I was waiting the whole morning for you.*

**Future Continuous Tense:**

Future Continuous Tense is used when an action is thought to be going on in the future.

**Structure:** Subject + shall be/ Will be + (Verb+ing) + object / extension.

(To make negative, put 'not' after 'Will' and to make interrogative sentences, put 'Shall/Will' before the subject and add a sign of interrogation at the end of the sentence.)

➤ *Perfect Tenses*

- Ruma shall/will be going to school. I shall/will be eating rice.
- You will not be playing football. He will not be going to school.
- Will she be eating rice? Will we be going to school?
- Will we not be eating rice? Will they not read the book? Will they not be sleeping?

**Use of Future Continuous**

- Future continuous can be used to project ourselves into the future. For example: Next Thursday **we will be playing** in our new job.
- The future continuous tense can be used for predicting or guessing about future events. For example: **Nazmul will be running** to meet us, I expect.
- Future continuous tense can be used to refer to continuous events that we expect to happen in the future. For example: When he is in Australia, **he will be staying** with friends.
- When combined with *still*, the future continuous refers to events that are already happening now and that we expect to continue some time into the future. For example: Tomorrow **he'll still be suffering** from his cold.

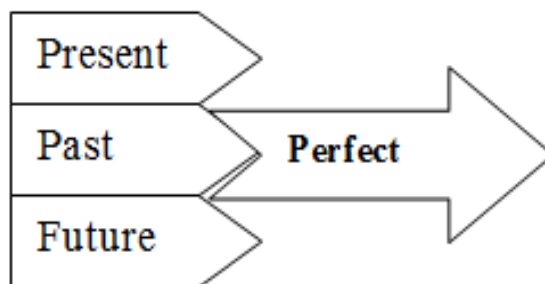


Fig 9

The Perfect Tenses at a glance		
Tenses	Examples	Meaning
Present Perfect	a) Mark has already eaten.	Mark finished eating <i>sometime before now</i> . The exact time is not important.
Past Perfect	a) Mark had already eaten when his friends arrived	First Mark finished eating. Later his friend arrived. Mark's eating was completely finished <i>before another time or event (his friends' arrival) in the past</i> .
Future Perfect	a) Mark will already have eaten when his friends arrive.	First Mark will finish eating. Later his friend will arrive. Mark's eating will be completely finished <i>before another time or event (his friends' arrival) in the future</i> .

Fig 10  
Source: (Azar: 1999)

**Present Perfect Tense:**

Present Perfect Tense refers to the event that has happened just sometime before now. The specific time of the event is not important. The effect of the action may last or end.

**Structure:** Subject + Have / Has+ Past participle form of verb+ object / extension.

(To make negative, put 'not' just after the auxiliary 'Have/Has' and to make question, place auxiliary before the subject and add a sign of interrogation at the end of the sentence.)

**Subjects and Verb (to have)**

I	Have	She	Has
You	Have	It	Has
We	Have	They	Have
He	Has	The cat/The Man/ Sojib	Has

Fig 11

- I have gone to school. They have eaten rice. Samrat and Gandhi have played football.
- He has run in the rain. She has eaten rice. It has destroyed everything.
- We have not gone to school. They haven't done the work.
- Have they slept in time? Has he eaten rice? Have you brought umbrella?

**Use of Present Perfect Tense**

- The Present Perfect tense is used to describe something that happened in the past, but the exact time in happened is not important. It has a relationship with the present. For example: *I have seen Mushfiq to enter the market.*
- *Already, Just* and *Yet* are used in present perfect tense. Example: *He has already done his homework. I haven't seen him yet.*
- Something we have done several time in the past and continue to do. For example: *I have played guitar ever since I was a teenager.*

**Past Perfect Tense:**

We use Past Perfect Tense in the former action between two completed actions of the past.

**Structure:** Subject + had + Past participle form of verb+ object / extension.

(To make negative, put 'not' just after the auxiliary 'Had' and to make question, place auxiliary before the subject and add a sign of interrogation at the end of the sentence.)

- I had played football. I had eaten rice. You had played football.
- He had not gone to school. She had not eaten rice. The boy had not beaten the little girl.
- Had it destroyed everything? Had the boy gone to school? Had he closed the door?

**Use of Past Perfect Tense**

- We use past perfect tense almost in the same way as the present perfect, but it refers to a time in the past, not in the present. For example: *I had lost my keys. She had read the book.*
- In conditional sentence, if the first sentence becomes future perfect, another one becomes past perfect. For example: *If you would have come, I had given you the job.*
- To make wish, unreal past, use past perfect. For example: *Had I been a king!*



**Future Perfect Tense:**

We use Future Perfect Tense to indicate the completion of an action by a certain time in the future.

**Structure:** Subject + shall have / will have + Past participle form of verb+ object / extension.

- Radha shall/ will have gone to school. I shall /will have played cricket.
- She will have eaten rice. It will have destroyed everything.

- We will have gone to school. We will have eaten rice.
- They will have eaten rice.They will have slept.

**Use of Future Perfect Tense**

- The future perfect indicates that an action will have been at some point in the future. For example: *By next week, I will have finished reading this novel.*
- We use Future Perfect tense to express the idea that something will happen before another action in the future. The first action will be in future perfect tense and the rest will either in present simple or future simple tense. For example: *They will have completed their homework before their parents come.*

➤ *Perfect Continuous Tenses*

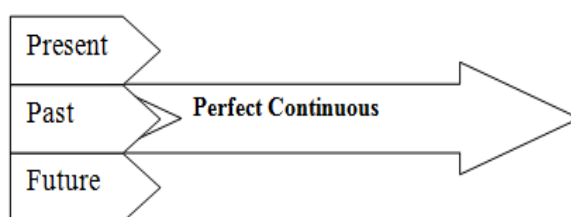


Fig 12

The Perfect Continuous Tenses at a glance		
Tenses	Examples	Meaning
Present Perfect Continuous	a) Mark has been studying for two hours.	Event in progress: Studying  When? <i>Before now, up to now.</i> How long? For two hours.
Past Perfect Continuous	a) Mark had been studying for two hours before his friends came.	Event in progress: Studying  When? <i>Before another event in the past.</i> How long? For two hours.
Future Perfect Continuous	a) Mark will have been studying for two hours by the time his friends arrive.	Event in progress: Studying  When? <i>Before another event in the future.</i> How long? For two hours.

Fig 13

Source: (Azar: 1999)

**Present Perfect Continuous Tense:**

We use Present Perfect Continuous Tense for an action which began at some time in the past and is still continuing. The duration and the span of the event or action is longer than the average, 2 hours, Five days, Since morning, since 2002, from 1989 etc, for instance.

**Structure of Present Perfect Continuous tense:**

Subject+ have been/has been+ (verb+ing)+ Object/ Extension (mentioning time)

(To make negative sentence, put 'not' just after the 'have/has', and to make question, place 'have/has' just before the subject and add sign of interrogation at the end of the sentence.)

- They have been doing the work for two days.
- Has he been living here from his boyhood?
- Shornali has not been waiting for you for a long time.
- I have not been teaching at Brac University since 2014.
- Ruma and Jamal have been doing their work since day break.
- Has it been destroying everything from Monday last?

#### Use of Present Perfect Continuous Tense

- We use the Present Perfect Continuous to show that something started in the past and has continued up until now. "For four hours," "for three months," and "since Monday" are all durations which can be used with the present perfect continuous. *She has been working at that company for three years.*
- Verbs those are not commonly used in the continuous form, use the simple present perfect instead (verbs such as: know, hate, hear, understand, and want). For example:  
Incorrect: *I have been wanting* to visit the USA for two years.

**Correct:** *I have wanted* to visit China for years.

- The Verbs those are *Static in nature* is usually used in Present Continuous Tense. Naturally the action begins in the past and continue to the point of speaking. Those are (stay, sit, stand, wait, sleep, lie, live, learn, rain, rest etc.)

#### Past Perfect Continuous Tense:

Past Perfect Continuous Tense is used for an action that began before a certain point of time in the past and continued up to that time.

(To make negative sentence, put 'not' just after the 'had', and to make question, place 'had' just before the subject and add a sign of interrogation at the end of the sentence.)

**Structure:** Subject + had been + (verb +ing) + Object/ Extension (mentioning time)

- We had been playing before the train started.
- We had not been playing cricket since morning.
- Had your mother been waiting for you when you went to your friend's house?
- Had they been playing football in the field when we passed the way?
- Mr. Solaiman had been teaching for six years at a university before he went abroad.

#### Future Perfect Continuous Tense:

We use Future Perfect Continuous Tense when the doer/s will have been doing the work by a certain future time.

**Structure:** Subject + will have been/ shall have been + (verb + ing) + Object/ Extension (mentioning time)

(To make negative sentence, put 'not' just after the 'will/shall', and to make question, place 'shall/will' just before the subject and add a sign of interrogation (?) at the end of the sentence.)

- By next April we shall have been living here for three years.
- I shall not have been doing the work before my father comes.
- He will not have been studying at City University when he gets his degree.
- In November, I will have been working at my company for three years.
- At five o'clock, Will I have been waiting for thirty minutes?

## V. CONCLUSION

As it is proved as the easiest and the effective way for the learners, the teachers of schools can follow this method for the better understanding and long lasting remembrance of the learners. It can be hoped for the nation as the better solution and every one of us should follow this method in the EFL teaching.

## REFERENCES

- [1]. Hossain & Chowdhury. (2000). *Advanced Learner's Functional English*, Dhaka, Advanced Publications, p.01.
- [2]. Agarwal, Prateek.(2016). *Importance of Tense in English Language*, <https://medium.com/@hdi.prateek/importance-of-tense-in-english-language-lea7b9720634#:~:text=The%20term%2C%20Tense%2C%20has%20been,state%20and%20the%20future%20Tense.> (Accessed at 9:30 p.m on 10<sup>th</sup> July,2020)
- [3]. Das, P.C. (2013). *Applied English Grammar and Composition*, Kolkata, India, New Central Book Agency (P) Ltd., p.160.
- [4]. Chauhan, Yamini.(2011), Britannica, Editors of Encyclopedia(1998) Encyclopaedia Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/tense>(Accessed at 8 P.M on 16<sup>th</sup> Jan,2018)
- [5]. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/grammar/british-grammar/present/present> (Accessed at 8 P.M on 19/03/2019)
- [6]. *Oxford Guide to English Grammar*, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition 2002, Oxford University Press London.
- [7]. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/grammar/british-grammar/future/future> (Accessed at 8 P.M on 19/03/2019)
- [8]. <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/english-grammar/past-tense> (Accessed at 8 P.M on 19/03/2019)
- [9]. <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/english-grammar/talking-about-future> (Accessed at 8 P.M on 19/03/2019)
- [10]. Rayevska, M. N., *Modern English Grammar* [https://web.krao.kg/2\\_inostran/english/3.pdf](https://web.krao.kg/2_inostran/english/3.pdf) (Accessed at 9 P.M on 20/03/2019)

- [12]. Azar, Betty Schramper (1999), *Understanding and Using English Grammar*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Pearson Longman, USA (Page2-6)
- [13]. <https://onlineenglishgrammar.blogspot.com/2015/11/importance-of-tenses-in-englishgrammar.html>(Accessed at 10:40 a.m. on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020)
- [14]. Das, P.C. (2013). *Applied English Grammar and Composition*,
- [15]. Kolkata, India, New Central Book Agency (P) Ltd., p.164.
- [16]. *Concise Oxford Dictionary*, 9<sup>th</sup> ed, p1436:
- [17]. [https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tense\\_\(grammar\)](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tense_(grammar)) (Accessed at 7 a.m. on 25 Jan.2018)
- [18]. <http://www.english-bangla.com/grammar/tense> (Accessed at 7 p.m. on 28 Jan.2018)
- [19]. [https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tense\\_\(grammar\)](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tense_(grammar)) (Accessed at 8 p.m. on 28 Jan.2018)
- [20]. <http://www.glossary.sil.org/term/tense> (Accessed at 9 p.m. on 20 Jan.2018)
- [21]. Azar, Betty Schramper (1999), *Understanding and Using English Grammar*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Pearson Longman, USA (Page 10)
- [22]. Das, P.C. (2013). *Applied English Grammar and Composition*,
- [23]. Kolkata, India, New Central Book Agency (P) Ltd., p.168.
- [24]. [http://www.english-bangla.com/grammar/future\\_tense](http://www.english-bangla.com/grammar/future_tense) (Accessed at 7 p.m. on 5 Jan.2019)
- [25]. <https://www.artisticenglish.com/future-indefinite-tense-in-english-grammar> (Accessed at 8 p.m. on 5 Jan.2019)
- [26]. <https://www.ef.com/wwen/english-resources/english-grammar/simple-future-tense> (Accessed at 8 p.m. on 5 Jan.2019)
- [27]. <https://www.lingualinkdc.net/blog/grammar-tenses>
- [28]. <https://www.artisticenglish.com/>
- [29]. <https://www.ef.com/wwen/english-resources/english-grammar/past-continuous-tense/> (Accessed at 9 p.m. on 5 Jan.2019)
- [30]. <https://preply.com/en/blog/2015/01/13/using-the-past-continuous-tense-in-english/> (Accessed at 9.30 p.m. on 5 Jan.2019)
- [31]. <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/intermediate-grammar/future-continuous-future-perfect> (Accessed at 10.20 p.m. on 5 Jan.2019)
- [32]. <https://www.ef.com/wwen/english-resources/english-grammar/> (Accessed at 10:40 a.m. on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020)
- [33]. <https://www.ecenglish.com/learnenglish/how-use-present-perfect> (Accessed at 8 a.m. on 6 Jan.2019)
- [34]. <https://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/presentperfectcontinuous.html> (Accessed at 9 a.m. on 6 Jan.2019)
- [35]. <https://medium.com/@hdi.prateek/importance-of-tense-in-english-language-1ea7b9720634>
- [36]. <https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/blogs/admin/teaching-grammar-future-tenses-will-you-marry-me-story> (Accessed at 7 p.m. on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2019)
- [37]. <http://bijoublrc.blogspot.com/2017/12/importance-of-tenses-in->(Accessed at 9:40 a.m. on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020)
- [38]. [english.html#:~:text=The%20concept%20of%20English%20verb,that%20is%2C%20speaking%20and%20writing.&text=The%20term%2C%20tense%2C%20has%20been,word%20%E2%80%9Ctempus%E2%80%9D%20meaning%20time.](#)
- [39]. [https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/learner-english/future\\_1](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/learner-english/future_1) (Accessed at 7.30 p.m. on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2019)
- [40]. <https://www.fluentu.com/blog/english/english-future-tense/> (Accessed at 8 p.m. on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2019)
- [41]. <https://writingtips.expertscolumn.com/importance-english-tenses-1> (Accessed at 11:40 a.m. on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020)
- [42]. [https://issuu.com/thetuitionteacher/docs/importance\\_of\\_tenses\\_in\\_english\\_lan](https://issuu.com/thetuitionteacher/docs/importance_of_tenses_in_english_lan) (Accessed at 12:05 p.m. on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020)