



Hi, I am EeBee



The Past Tense

Learning Outcomes

- Students will practice using past tense verbs in sentences.
- They will learn to form sentences in the past tense.



Lead in

See the picture and underline the words showing the past tense.

Once, there lived a man who used to sell caps. One day, he started with his business. After some time, he decided to go to the next village to sell his caps. In the way, he sat under a tree, put his luggage by his side and started to take food. After that he slept under the tree in its shade.



Past Tense

The Past Tense is used to express actions which have been finished before the time of speaking.

Past tense has four forms.

- Simple Past Tense ○ Past Continuous Tense ○ Past Perfect Tense ○ Past Perfect Continuous Tense

Simple Past Tense: The 'simple past tense', according to the Cambridge Dictionary, is defined as "the form of a verb used to describe an action that happened before the present time and is no longer happening."

Formation of the Simple Past Tense

Positive Statements		Examples
all nouns/pronouns	the past tense form of the verb	1. I played. 2. We played. 3. They played.
Questions		Examples
Did + all nouns/pronouns	the root form of the verb + ?	1. Did I play? 2. Did we play? 3. Did they play?
Negative		Examples
all nouns/pronouns	did + not root form of the verb	1. I did not play. 2. We did not play. 3. They did not play.



Uses of the Simple Past Tense

We use the simple past tense:

- To express an action which finished before the time of speaking
Example : We **played** a friendly match yesterday.
- To express some past habits
Example : My grandfather **went** for a morning walk daily.
- To express an action that took place over a period of time in the past.
Example : I **lived** in Chennai from 2015 to 2018.

A. Fill in the blanks with the simple past tense form of the verbs given in the brackets.

- I _____ (not/eat) anything yesterday.
- I _____ (spend) my childhood in Bhubaneswar.
- Ashok _____ (apply) for the job.

B. Fill in the blanks with the simple past tense of the verbs given in the brackets to complete the passage.

Neha _____ (get) an interesting book. The book _____ (be) about animals. Neha _____ (love) animals very much. It _____ (has) pictures of cats and dogs. It _____ (has) pictures of cows and sheep. Neha _____ (look) at the pictures on the first page.



Skills/Level
WRITING/B2



Past Continuous Tense: The past continuous tense is a verb tense used to describe an action that started in the past and continued over a period of time.

Formation of the Past Continuous Tense

Positive Statements			Examples
all nouns/pronouns	was/were	root form of the verb + ing	1. I was reading. 2. We were reading. 3. They were reading.
Questions			Examples
was/were	all nouns/pronouns	root form of the verb + ing + ?	1. Was he reading? 2. Were they reading?
Negative			Examples
all nouns/pronouns	was/were + not	root form of the verb + ing	1. I was not reading. 2. They were not reading.

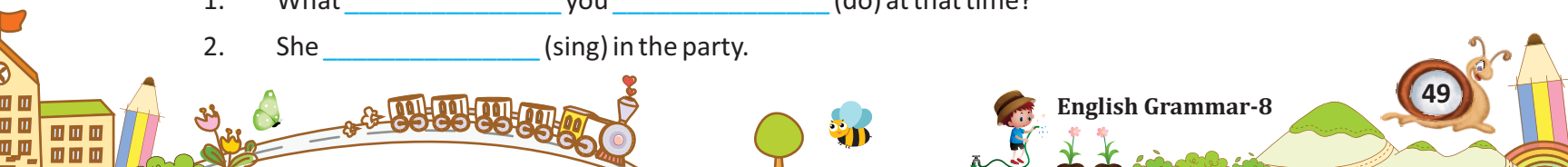
Uses of the Past Continuous Tense

We use the past continuous tense:

- to express an action in progress at some moment before the time of speaking
Examples :
 - I **was doing** my homework.
 - They **were playing** in the park.
- for the longer action and the simple past tense for the shorter action to express that something happened when another action was in progress.
Examples :
 - I **was reading** my books when my best friend **arrived**.
 - The phone **rang** when she **was cooking** food.

C. Fill in the blanks with the past continuous tense form of the verbs given in the brackets.

- What _____ you _____ (do) at that time?
- She _____ (sing) in the party.





The Past Perfect Tense:- A verb form used to describe a past action that happened before another past action.

Formation of the Past Perfect Tense

Positive Statements			Examples
all nouns/pronouns	had	the past participle form of the verb	1. I had played. 2. We had played. 3. They had played.
Questions			Examples
had/nouns pronouns		the past participle +?	1. Had I played? 2. Had we played?
Negative			Examples
nouns/pronouns	had+ not	past participle form of the verb	1. I had not played. 2. We had not played.

Uses of the Past Perfect Tense

The past perfect tense is used :

- to describe an action that had taken before another action in the past.
Example : The patient **had died** before the doctor arrived.
- with verbs like think, hope, expect, want, suppose, etc. to suggest that an expected past action did not take place
Example : The old woman had hoped that her missing son would return someday. (but he didn't).

D. Fill in the blanks with the past perfect tense form of the verbs given in the brackets.

- I _____ (meet) her somewhere before.
- The match _____ (start) before we reached the stadium.
- The thief _____ (run) away before the police arrived.
- The train _____ (leave) the station before I arrived.



Skills/Level
WRITING/B1



Past Perfect Continuous Tense: The past perfect continuous tense is a verb tense that describes an action that started in the past and continued until a specific time in the past.

Formation of the Past Perfect Continuous Tense

Positive Statements				Examples
all nouns/pronouns	had + been	root form of the verb + ing		1. I had been playing. 2. We had been playing. 3. They had been playing.
Questions				Examples
had	nouns/pronouns	been	root form of the verb + ing + ?	1. Had I been playing? 2. Had you been playing?
Negatives				Examples
nouns/pronouns	had + not	been verb + ing	root form of the	1. I had not been playing. 2. They had not been playing.





Uses of the Past Perfect Continuous Tense

The past perfect continuous tense is used:

- to express an action which began before a definite moment in the past, and continued up to that moment and was still in progress at that moment, or had recently finished.

Examples :

1. Neha **had been singing** for almost two hours before the concert concluded.
2. The manager **had been managing** the department for twenty years before he retired.

E. Fill in the blanks with the past perfect continuous form of the verbs given in the brackets.

1. The little boy _____ (stand) at the door until a policeman arrived.
2. The students _____ (wait) for the results until yesterday.
3. Maria _____ (practice) the piano before her dad arrived.
4. Raj _____ (study) hard since October.



Points to Remember

- *The past tense is used to express actions which have been finished.*
- *Post tense has four forms— Simple Past Tense, Past Continuous Tense, Past Perfect Tense, Past Perfect Continuous Tense.*



My EeeBee Interactive Activities



Listening



Speaking



Reading



Writing



Grammar



Vocabulary

WRITE YOUR SCORE

Practice your LSRW Skills



on Communication Lab

