

**Topic: Tenses**

The term 'Tense' denotes the form of a verb which shows the time at which an action happened. So, the tense shows two things :

(i) the time of the action (ii) state expressed by the verb.

**Exercise: 1**

**Complete the following sentences using the correct form of the verb given in brackets.**

1. The thief ..... (catch) red-handed.
2. A bomb scare ..... (delay) the flight by almost two hours.
3. The stadium ..... (reverberate) with dance, music and drama as troupes from different parts of the country ..... (present) a panorama of color and costume.
4. I ..... (spend) the whole day yesterday in bed.
5. Students from different parts of the country ..... (participate) in the program.
6. It is true that Jim-Corbett ..... (love) animals but he also ..... (kill) many man-eaters.
7. I ..... (learn) Telugu from a friend who ..... (hail) from Andhra Pradesh.
8. The bridge across the river ..... (build) some two hundred years ago.
9. The wicked people who ..... (smuggle) brown sugar into the town ..... (arrest) yesterday.
10. Last night, the clouds ..... (thunder) in the sky.

**Answers**

1. Was caught; 2. Delayed; 3. Reverberated, Presented; 4. Spent; 5. Participated; 6. Loved, Killed; 7. Learned, Hails; 8. Was built; 9. Smuggled, Were arrested; 10. Thundered

**Fill in the blanks with the correct use of tenses. Exercise :2**

**1. My mother \_\_\_\_\_ up early in the morning.**

- a) get    b) gets    c) will be    d) shall be

**Answer: b) gets**

**2. The children \_\_\_\_\_ in the field now.**

- a) has played    b) are playing    c) plays    d) will had played

**Answer: b) are playing**

**3. I \_\_\_\_\_ her for several years.**

- a) has known    b) have known    c) knows    d) knew

**Answer: b) have known**

**4. It \_\_\_\_\_ raining since morning.**

- a) have been    b) has been    c) is    d) was

**Answer: b) has been**

**5. He \_\_\_\_\_ his house seven days ago.**

- a) left    b) leave    c) leaves    d) is leaving

**Answer: a) left**

**6. The train \_\_\_\_\_ before he reached the station.**

- a) has left    b) was left    c) had left    d) is left

**Answer: c) had left**

**7. It \_\_\_\_\_ raining since morning when you rang me up.**

- a) had been    b) has been    c) have been    d) was

**Answer: a) had been**

**8. If he works hard he \_\_\_\_\_ pass.**

- a) will    b) shall    c) will be    d) shall be

**Answer: a) will**

**9. The cook \_\_\_\_\_ cooking food at this time tomorrow.**

a) shall be      b) will be      c) shall      d) will

**Answer: b) will be**

### Exercise 3

1. Ambitious people ..... for fame and success. (are yearning / yearn / yearns)
2. The lost man ....., hoping someone in the woods would hear him. (yelled / have yelled / had yelled)
3. That incident ..... two years ago. (was happening / happened / had happened)
4. The little girl gave a yell of delight when the dollhouse ..... (delivered / had delivered / was delivered)
5. Mother always ..... when I stay out late. (worries / worried / have worried)
6. The old woman ..... for practicing witchcraft. (hanged / was hanged / was hung)
7. You can succeed if you ..... it strongly. (will / willed / have willed)
8. I ..... for an hour when at last the train arrived. (waited / have been waiting / had been waiting)
9. If I were you, I ..... (will not worry / would not worry / don't worry)
10. She always ..... the wrong people. (trusts / trust / have trusted)

### Answers

1. yearn, 2. yelled, 3. happened, 4. was delivered, 5. worries, 6. was hanged, 7. will, 8. had been waiting, 9. would not worry, 10. trusts