



# FRESHMAN ENGLISH II

WEEK # 4

LECTURE # 7 & 8



**RIGHT VERB FOR THE RIGHT TIME**



# Noun

A noun is the name of a person, place, or thing.

Person  
girl  
boy  
teacher

Place  
school  
home  
store

Thing  
pencil  
jacket  
dog

# Pronoun

A pronoun is used in place of a noun in a sentence. A pronoun may take the place of the name of a person, place, or thing.

I	you	she	he
it	we	they	me

# Verb

A verb can tell what action someone or something is doing. A verb can also express a state of being.

Action		State of Being	
run	jump	am	is
sit	ask	are	was
think	talk		were

# Adjective

An adjective describes a noun or a pronoun. An adjective tells what kind, how many, or which one.

What Kind	How Many	Which One
happy	more	this
brave	two	that

# Article

The words a, an, and the belong to a special group of adjectives called articles. An article can be used before a noun in a sentence.

a	an	the
a dog	an apple	the boy
a rabbit	an ant	the bird

# Adverb

An adverb describes a verb, adjective, or another adverb. An adverb tells how, when, where, or to what degree.

When	How	Where	To What Degree
today	quickly	outside	barely

# Preposition

A preposition combines with a noun or pronoun to form a phrase that tells something about another word in a sentence.

from	to	until
over	with	after

# Conjunction

A conjunction joins together single words or groups of words in a sentence.

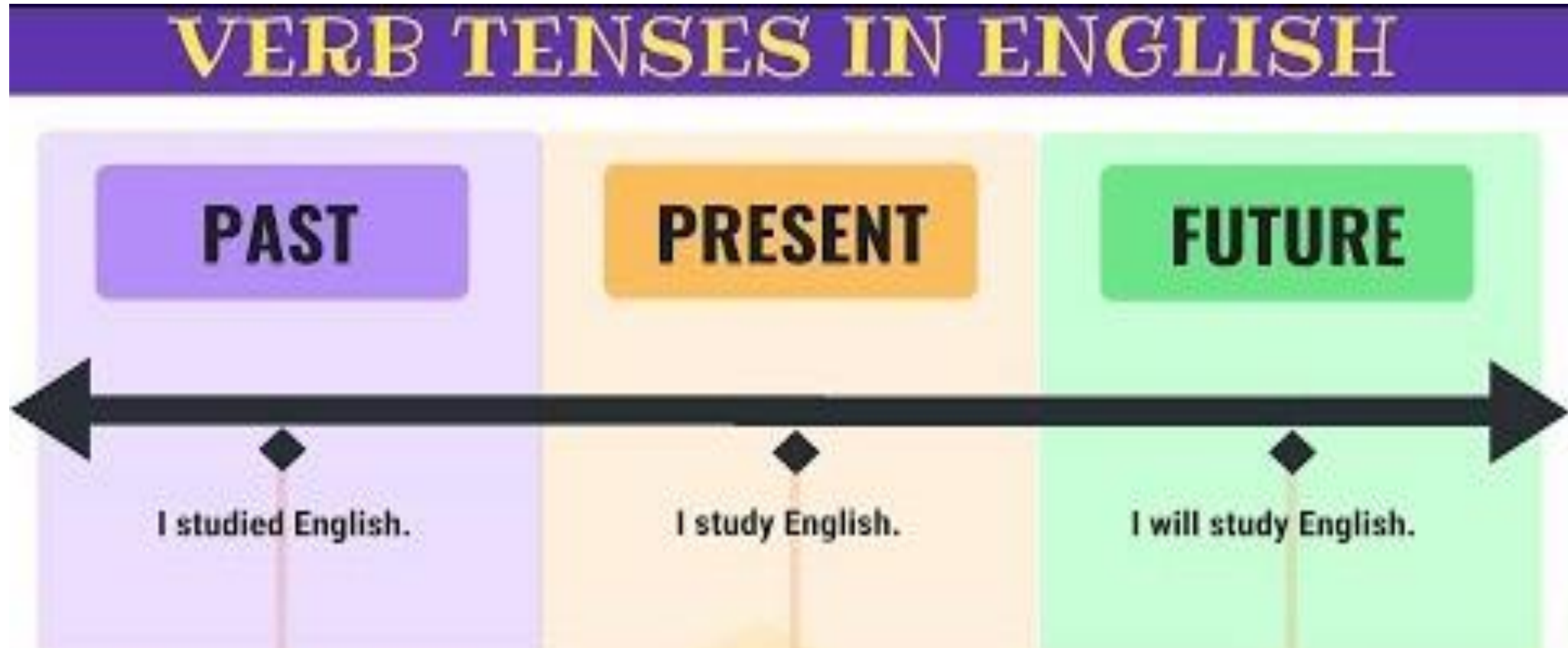
and but or nor

# Interjection

An interjection expresses strong feeling or emotion. An interjection can be a single word or a phrase.

Help!	Oh!	Ouch!
Ugh!	Whew!	Ah!
My goodness!	Look out!	Oh dear!

# PART OF SPEECH: PAST, PRESENT OF FUTURE?



Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" is one of the most famous portraits in the history of painting. Leonardo took four years to complete the painting: he began work in 1503 and finished in 1507. Mona (or Madonna Lisa Gherardini) is from a noble family in Naples, and Leonardo may have painted her on commission from her husband. Leonardo is said to have entertained Mona Lisa with six musicians. He installed a musical fountain where the water played on small glass spheres, and he gave Mona a puppy and a white Persian cat to play with. Leonardo did what he could to keep Mona smiling during the long hours she sat for him. But it is not only Mona's mysterious smile that has impressed anyone who has ever viewed the portrait: the background landscape is just as mysterious and beautiful. The portrait can be seen today in the Louvre Museum in Paris.



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# CORRECT FORM OF VERB

The infinitive (the grandfather of each verb family; the verb's original form preceded by to) follows every sentence. Stay in that family when you fill in the blank, choosing the correct tense. When you're finished with this sample, try the practice problems that follow.

Q. Yesterday, overreacting to an itty-bitty taste of arsenic, Mike \_\_\_\_\_ his evil twin brother of murder. (to accuse)

A. **accused**. The clue here is yesterday, which tells you that you're in the past.

# CORRECT FORM OF VERB

1. Fashion is important to David, so he always \_\_\_\_\_ the latest and most popular style. (to select)
2. Last year's tight, slim lines \_\_\_\_\_ David, who, it must be admitted, does not have a tiny waist. (to challenge)
3. While David \_\_\_\_\_ new clothes, his fashion consultant is busy on the sidelines, recommending stripes and understated plaids to minimize the bulge factor. (to buy)
4. David hopes that the next fashion fad \_\_\_\_\_ a more mature, oval figure like his own. (to flatter)
5. Right now Diane \_\_\_\_\_ an article for the fashion press stating that so-tight-it-may-as-well-be-painted-on leather is best. (to write)



# CORRECT FORM OF VERB: ANSWERS

1. **selects.** Notice the time clues? The first part of the sentence contains the present-tense verb *is*, and the second part includes the word *always*. You're in the present with a recurring action.
2. **challenged.** Another time clue: *last year's* places you in the past.
3. **is buying** or **buys.** The second verb in the sentence (*is*) takes you right into the store with David, watching the unfolding action. Present progressive tense gives a sense of immediacy, so *is buying* makes sense. The plain present tense (*buys*) works nicely also.
4. **will flatter.** The key here is *next*, which puts the sentence in the future.
5. **is writing.** The time clue *right now* indicates an ongoing action, so the present progressive form *is writing* works well here.

# CORRECT FORM OF VERB

6. She once \_\_\_\_\_ a purple suede pantsuit, which clashed with her orange “I Love Motorcycles” tattoo. (to purchase)
7. While she \_\_\_\_\_ the pantsuit, the salesperson urged her to “go for it.” (to model)
8. Two days after Diane’s shopping spree, Grace \_\_\_\_\_ about show-offs who “spend more time on their wardrobes than on their spark plugs.” (to mutter)
9. However, Diane knows that Grace, as soon as she raises enough cash, \_\_\_\_\_ in a suede outfit of her own. (to invest)
10. David, as always, \_\_\_\_\_ in with the last word when he gave Grace and Diane the “Fashion Train Wreck of the Year” award. (to chime)

# CORRECT FORM OF VERB: ANSWERS

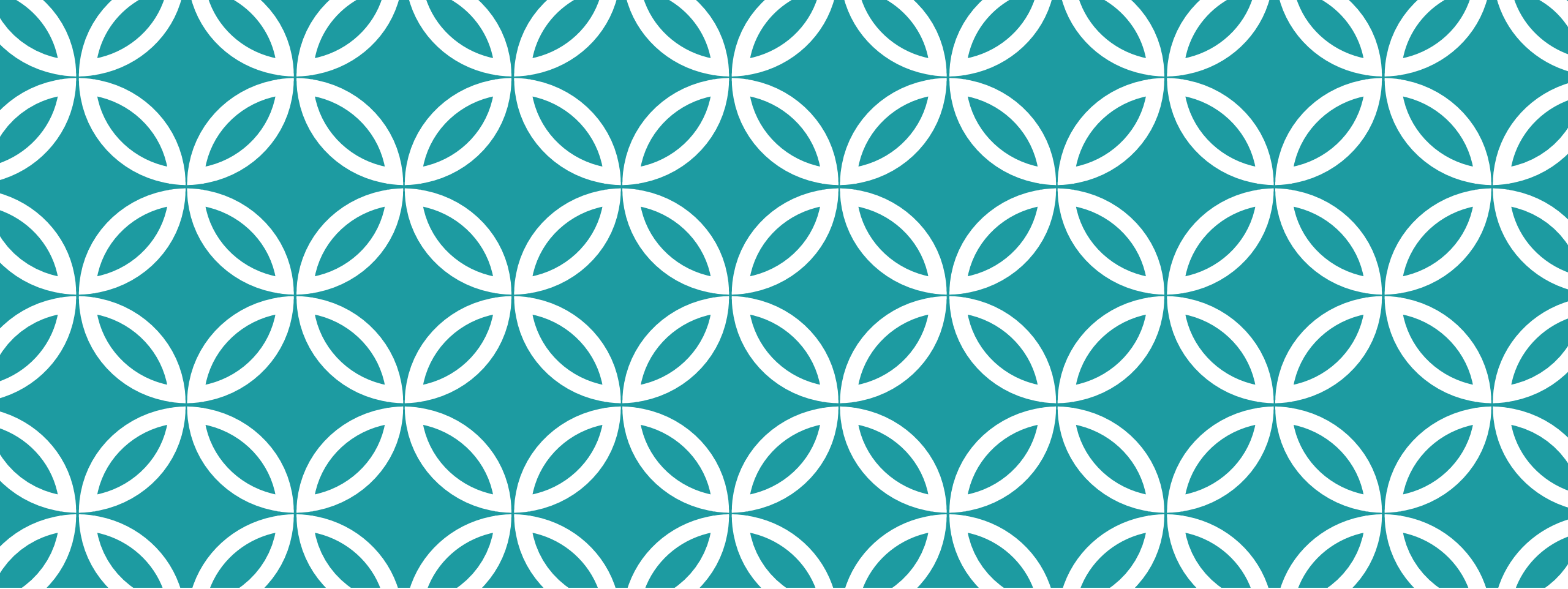
6. **purchased.** Diane's bad-taste splurge happened *once*, which means it took place in the past.
7. **was modeling** or **modeled.** The second part of the sentence includes the verb *urged*, which places the action in the past. I like the past progressive (*was modeling*) here because the word *while* takes you into the process of modeling, which went on over a period of time. However, the sentence makes sense even when the process isn't emphasized, so *modeled* is also an option.
8. **muttered** or **was muttering.** The clue to the past is *two days after*. The second answer gives more of a "you are there" feel, but either is correct.
9. **will invest.** The time words here, *as soon as*, tell you that the action hasn't happened yet.
10. **chimed.** If he *gave*, you're in past tense.

# CORRECT FORM OF VERB

11. Two minutes after receiving the award, Diane \_\_\_\_\_ it on a shelf next to her “Best Dressed, Considering” medal. (to place)
12. Every day when I see the medal, I \_\_\_\_\_ what “considering” means. (to wonder)
13. Grace \_\_\_\_\_ it to me in detail yesterday. (to explain)
14. “We earned the medal for considering many fashion options,” she \_\_\_\_\_. (to state)
15. David, who \_\_\_\_\_ Diane tomorrow, says that the medal acknowledges the fact that Grace is fashion-challenged but tries hard anyway. (to visit)

# CORRECT FORM OF VERB: ANSWERS

11. **placed.** The expression *two minutes after* tells you that you're in the past, so you know that the action of placing the award on the shelf is in past tense.
12. **wonder.** The time clue here is *every day*, which tells you that this action is still happening at the present time and should be in present tense.
13. **explained.** The *yesterday* is a dead giveaway; go for past tense.
14. **stated.** The saga of Grace and Diane's award is in past tense, and this sentence is no exception. Even without the story context, you see the first verb (*earned*) is in past tense, which works nicely with the past-tense verb *stated*.
15. **will visit.** The time clue is *tomorrow*, which places the verb in the future.



## PERFECT TENSES





# CORRECT FORM OF VERB: PERFECT TENSE

- ✓ **Past perfect places one event in the past before another event in the past.**

“Mike had dumped his dirty laundry in his mother’s basement long before she decided to change the front-door lock.”

- ✓ **Present perfect links the past and the present by describing an action or state of being that began in the past and is still going on.**

“Despite numerous reports of sightings around the world, Kristin has stayed close to home,”

- ✓ **Future perfect implies a deadline sometime in the future.**

“Before sundown, David will have toasted several dozen loaves of bread,”

# CORRECT FORM OF VERB: PERFECT TENSE

Try this example and then plunge ahead. The verb you're working on appears as an infinitive (the basic, no-tense form) at the end of the sentence. Change it into the correct tense and fill in the blank.

Q. Kristin \_\_\_\_\_ an acceptance speech, but the Spy of the Year title went to Hanna instead. (to prepare)

A. **had prepared**. With two events in the past, the had signals the prior event. The preparing of the speech took place before the awarding of the title, so had prepared is the form you want.

# CORRECT FORM OF VERB: PERFECT TENSE

16. Mike \_\_\_\_\_ on thin ice for two hours when he heard the first crack. (to skate)
17. Diane \_\_\_\_\_ Mike for years about his skating habits, but he just won't listen. (to warn)
18. After Mike \_\_\_\_\_ an hour in the emergency room, the doctor examined him and announced that the skater was free to go. (to wait)
19. After today's skating trip ends, David \_\_\_\_\_ a total of 1,232 hours for his friend and \_\_\_\_\_ countless outdated magazines in the emergency room family area. (to wait, to read)
20. Grace \_\_\_\_\_ to speak to Mike ever since he declared that "a little thin ice" shouldn't scare anyone. (to refuse)

# CORRECT FORM OF VERB: ANSWERS

16. **had been skating** or **had skated**. You have two actions in the past — the skating and the hearing. The two hours of skating came before the hearing, so you need past perfect tense. Either the plain or the progressive form works here also.
17. **has been warning** or **has warned**. The second half of the sentence indicates the present (*won't listen*), but you also have a hint of the past (*for years*). Present perfect is the best choice because it links past and present. I like the immediacy of progressive here (I can hear Diane's ranting), but plain present perfect is okay as well.
18. **had waited** or **had been waiting**. The waiting preceded the doctor's announcement, so you should use past perfect. Progressive adds a "you are there" feel but isn't necessary.
19. **will have waited, will have read**. The deadline in the sentence (*the end of today's trip*) is your clue for future perfect tense.
20. **has refused**. Notice the present-past link? Mike declared and Grace is acting now. Hence you need present perfect tense.

# CORRECT FORM OF VERB: PERFECT TENSE

21. Mike, in a temper, pointed out that Grace's motorcycle \_\_\_\_\_ him to the hospital even more frequently than his skates. (to send)
22. In an effort to make peace, Kristin \_\_\_\_\_ quietly to both combatants before the conflict escalates. (to speak)
23. Despite years of practice, Tim \_\_\_\_\_ success only on rare occasions, but he keeps trying to resolve his brother's conflicts anyway. (to achieve)
24. At times Tim's conflict-resolution technique \_\_\_\_\_ of violent finger pokes in the fighters' ribs, but he is trying to become more diplomatic. (to consist)
25. After Mike \_\_\_\_\_ that his brother's wisest course of action was to "butt out," Tim simply ignored him. (to declare)

# CORRECT FORM OF VERB: ANSWERS

- 21. **had sent.** The pointing and the hospital-sending are at two different times in the past, with the hospital occurring first. Go for past perfect for the earlier action.
- 22. **will have spoken.** The future perfect needs an end point (in this sentence, the end of the yelling) before which the action occurs.
- 23. **has achieved.** If he keeps trying, you have a present-tense idea that's connected to the past (despite years of practice and on rare occasions). Present perfect connects the present and past.
- 24. **has consisted.** This sentence has a present-tense clue (*at times*). The sentence tells you about the past (*at times*) and the present (*is trying*), so present perfect is the one you want.
- 25. **had declared.** The *after* at the beginning of the sentence is your clue that one action occurs before another. Because both are in the past, you need past perfect tense for the earlier action.





# FEEDBACK