Unit 1 Tense and Aspect

Tense:

Time frame tells when something took place.

There are three basic time frames: _____ _____ _____

Aspect:

Aspect tells how the verb is related to that time, or gives some other information about the quality of the action.

There are four aspects: _____ _____ _____ _____

1-1 The Present Time Frame

Simple Present

1. The simple present is used to make factual statements.

(a) The earth *revolves* around the sun.

(b) Water *consists of* hydrogen and oxygen.

(c) Roberto *is* from Colombia. His father *owns* a coffee plantation.

(d) 台灣海洋資源豐富。

_____

2. The simple present is used to express customs and habitual activity.

(a) Many office workers *take* a fifteen-minute coffee break every day.

(b) I *drink* three cups of coffee every morning.

(c) 下班後她都會去健身中心。

_____

(d) 現在的台灣年輕人早餐很少吃稀飯。

_____

3. The simple present is used to express future time with a future time word or phrase.

(a) What time *does* the flight to California *leave* tomorrow.

It *leaves* at noon.

(b) 火車什麼時候到站？

_____

4. The simple present is used to express opinions, sense perceptions, emotions, and possession.

(a) My landlady *makes* excellent coffee.

(b) This coffee *tastes* bitter.

(c) I *hate* bitter coffee.

(d) This cup *belongs* to the secretary.

(e) 我很欣賞她的勇氣和決心。

_____

(f) 很多台灣學生都了解到英文能力的重要性。

_____

Present Progressive

1. The present progressive is used to describe an action that is in progress and happening at the time of speaking.

(a) It's a beautiful day, so many office workers *are eating* their lunches outside. A few people *are standing* in line in front of a park vendor. They *are waiting* for hamburgers. A little boy *is enjoying* a huge ice cream cone.

(b) 天在下著雨，我在這裡等著你。

_____

2. The present progressive is used to describe an action that is happening around the time of speaking, but not happening exactly at that time.

(a) This quarter my roommate *is working* in the dorm cafeteria. He serves breakfast from 6:30 to 8:30 every morning. He *is taking* only two night courses this quarter, so his father agreed to let him work. His mother, however, *is trying* to convince him to quit the job.

(b) 這學期我修了三堂英文課。

_____

(c) 這幾天我都在準備期中考。

_____

3. The present progressive is used to describe a temporary action rather than habitual actions or permanent states.

(a) Sean speaks French, but he *is speaking* English in our class today.

(b) Juan lives in Taiwan, but he *is living* in the States while he gets his MBA degree.

(c) 我哥哥都搭捷運去上班的，不過這個星期他都搭計程車。

_____

(d) 她平常都穿牛仔褲的，今天竟然穿起裙子來了。

_____

4. The present progressive is used to describe repeated actions.

(a) These students *are always asking* questions.

(b) Our teacher *is always giving* us too much homework.

(c) 這對夫妻老是為了芝麻小事在吵架。

_____

(d) 我鄰居老是在晚上把音樂開得很大聲。

_____

5. The present progressive is used to express future time. A future time word or phrase is necessary to distinguish between a present and future time reference. Sometimes an earlier statement makes the future time clear, and a future time word is not necessary.

(a) Jim's plane *is arriving* at Denver at 6:00 tonight.

(b) He and his wife are *meeting* with their lawyer tomorrow.

(c) They'*re leaving* Denver next week.

(d) They'*re flying* to Texas.

(e) 明天我就要動身前往美國。

_____

(f) 飛機再過 15 分鐘就要起飛了。

_____

(g) 明年六月我就會從政大畢業了。

_____

Present Perfect

1. The present perfect is used to indicate an action that was finished at an indefinite time in the past but related to the present.

(a) Tina *has washed* the dishes.

(b) She *has interviewed* the minister.

(c) I *have received* my college acceptance letter.

(d) 我已經修過那位教授的課了。

_____

(e) 我們老闆已經看過你的履歷了。

_____

(f) 你有沒有去過巴黎？

_____

(g) 我從來沒有被當過任何一門課。

_____

(h) 最近我買了一部筆記型電腦。

_____

2. The present perfect is used to express an action or state that started in the past and has continued into the present.

(a) They *have known* each other for ten years.

(b) Martina *has loved* sports since she *was* a child.

(c) 我已經學了六年的英文了。

_____

(d) 她在同一家公司工作了好幾年了。

_____

(e) 他們已經結婚 5 年了。

_____

(f) 我從小就是就個棒球迷。

_____

3. The present perfect is used to indicate the number of times something has happened.

(a) He *has taken* the TOEFL many times.

(b) I *have seen* that movie twice.

(c) 那本小說我看了 N 次。