

A TALE of the ENGLISH TENSES

A Story that makes English Grammar Easy!

By Joanne Glen and David le Barzic

Welcome to *A Tale of the English Tenses*. This first book in the series teaches English through a fun story, clear explanations and practical exercises. Join a colourful cast of characters as they explore each English tense in a fun, memorable way — perfect for learners aged 11 and up.



THE GREY STORY

Meet Mr Tense

Mr Tense lives alone in a quiet place called Grey Town. Everything in his life is... well, grey.

He drives a grey car, collects stamps in grey albums, and enjoys a very calm and predictable daily routine.

Mr Tense is proud of being **punctual, organised, dependable and extremely methodical**. Nothing surprises him. Nothing changes. And that's exactly how he likes it.



Present Simple – something that is true now

1. I work for the tax office.

"I work for the tax office," says Mr Tense. "I make sure everyone pays their taxes on time."

What do you do, Mr Tense?"

"That's seldom a problem," he says proudly. "I'm very good at my job."

"And what do you like about it in particular?"

"I love the regularity," he explains.

"Routine hours, precise forms, official rules, the same colleagues every day... Some people say it's dull or monotonous, but I'm perfectly happy with it."



Is Mr Tense really as boring as he sounds?

Let's take a look at his morning...

Mr Tense's Very Routine Life

Mr Tense does the same things at the same time **every single day**.

Every weekday, his alarm clock rings at 7:00 a.m. He gets up, goes to the bathroom, has a shower, brushes his teeth, combs his hair and gets dressed — always in the same order.



Present Simple – habits and routines

2. Mr Tense always spreads his toast with butter.

Let's take today as an example.

It is 7:30 a.m., the exact time the paperboy normally delivers the newspaper. Mr Tense always watches from the window to check that everyone receives their paper on time.

He spreads his toast with butter — **never margarine** — makes his tea, and opens the paper straight to the TV page.

“Let's see... ah yes, my favourite show *Wheel of Fortune* starts at 8 o'clock as usual. It finishes at 8:30, just in time for the Weekly Lottery Show... and then the nine o'clock news at, of course, nine o'clock. Perfect. Nice and routine. Just how I like it.”

But one morning...

The paperboy is late.

Suddenly, everything goes wrong.

Mr Tense freezes.

“What do I do now? Do I butter the toast first? Do I make my tea? Do I wait for the paper? How do I know if *Wheel of Fortune* starts at eight again tonight?”



- **Curious what happens next? Tommy's about to learn a tense that changes everything.**
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A Tale of the English Tenses teaches grammar through what learners enjoy most: **a simple, engaging story, colourful illustrations, and short, practical exercises.**

Follow the characters as they travel through the past, present and future, discovering each tense in a memorable, meaningful way. A warm, engaging tale helps learners remember grammar effortlessly.

Do You Remember? – Making Tenses Easy Through Story

After each tense in the story, you'll find a short **Do You Remember?** section. These simple questions help you repeat the tense you've just read naturally — **without complicated grammar rules.** It is designed as a fun, friendly introduction to the English tenses through story, perfect for building confidence without pressure

If you'd like to go deeper, Books 2 and 3 in the series provide **clear grammar explanations, step-by-step guidance,** and **more detailed practice exercises** to strengthen everything you learn here.

Whether you're a student, a parent looking for extra support, or an ESL teacher searching for motivating material, this book makes even difficult grammar feel easy.

Perfect for ESL, EFL and English grammar learners from lower-intermediate level, this book helps build confidence, accuracy and understanding — without the boredom.

Ideal for:

- ✓ Learners of English from age 11 to adult
- ✓ ESL/EFL classrooms and tutoring
- ✓ Self-study at home
- ✓ Grammar revision and exam preparation
- ✓ Fun, story-based learning with real practice

If you want a book that makes English grammar enjoyable, memorable and practical, *A Tale of the English Tenses* is the perfect place to start.