

## An Analysis of Tenses In Reading Text

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### Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis penggunaan tenses dalam teks bacaan dan dampaknya terhadap pemahaman pembaca. Dengan fokus pada teks naratif, penelitian ini mengeksplorasi bagaimana berbagai tenses seperti sekarang, lampau, dan masa depan berperan dalam menyampaikan informasi dan menggambarkan peristiwa. Melalui pendekatan kualitatif, data dikumpulkan dari sejumlah teks bacaan yang dipilih secara acak, di mana analisis dilakukan untuk mengidentifikasi pola penggunaan tenses dan dampaknya terhadap alur cerita dan karakterisasi. Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa penggunaan tenses yang tepat tidak hanya meningkatkan kejelasan dan kohesi teks, tetapi juga memperkaya pengalaman membaca. Penelitian ini memberikan wawasan baru tentang pentingnya memahami tenses dalam konteks membaca, serta implikasi untuk pengajaran bahasa dan peningkatan keterampilan membaca siswa.

**Kata Kunci:** *Analisis Penggunaan Tenses*

### Abstract

This study aims to analyze the use of tenses in reading texts and their impact on readers's comprehension. With a focus on narrative texts, this study explores how various tenses such as present, past, and future play a role in conveying information and describing events. through a qualitative approach, data was collected from a number of randomly selected reading texts, where analysis was conducted to identify patterns of tenses usage and their effects on storyline and characterization. The results of the analysis show that the proper use of tenses not only enhances the clarity and cohesion of the text, but also enriches the reading experience. this study provides new insights into the importance of understanding tenses in the context of reading, as well as implications for language teaching and improving students' reading skills.

**Keywords :** *Tenses Usage Analysis*

### INTRODUCTION

Reading comprehension is a multifaceted skill that requires the reader to navigate various grammatical structures. Tenses, as fundamental components of these structures, provide essential context that aids in the interpretation of narratives, descriptions, and arguments. Analyzing how different tenses are employed in reading texts can unveil patterns that enhance our understanding of the text's overall message and the intended emotional or situational context of the narrative.

The realm of English language learning, the mastery of tenses plays a pivotal role, serving as the backbone for effective communication and comprehension. Tenses not only indicate the timing of actions but also convey nuances of meaning that can significantly alter the interpretation of a text. This journal aims to delve into an analysis of tenses utilized in reading texts, highlighting their importance in both understanding and producing language (Chandy & Serrano, 2025).

Through this analysis, we will explore the frequency and function of various tenses, ranging from the simple present to the past perfect, in diverse reading materials. By examining selected texts, we aim to uncover how the strategic use of tenses contributes to clarity, coherence, and engagement in written communication. Ultimately, this study seeks to illuminate the critical role that tenses play in reading comprehension, offering insights that can benefit both educators and learners in the pursuit of linguistic proficiency (Firdaus & Yukamana, 2024).

## METHODS

This study used a qualitative approach to analyze the use of tenses in reading texts. Data were collected from a variety of text types, including articles and short stories, with the selection taking into account genre variations and difficulty levels.

Data collection techniques included document analysis to identify the tenses used and interviews with students and teachers to understand their perspectives on the use of tenses. The collected data were analyzed thematically, categorizing the tenses into present, past, and future, and considering their function and context (Abdallah, 2025).

Validity was maintained through triangulation between document analysis and interviews, while reliability was enhanced through systematic coding and collaboration with co-researchers. The results of the study are expected to provide in-depth insights into the use of tenses in English language learning and can serve as a reference for curriculum development as well as teaching strategies.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In the study of linguistics, the analysis of word forms or morphology plays an important role in understanding how words are formed and used in specific contexts. The journal titled "An analysis of word forms in reading text" explores the various word forms that appear in reading texts and their impact on readers' comprehension and interpretation. Through in-depth analysis, it provides insights into how the complexity of word forms can affect the reading experience (Mukarromah & Suryanto, 2022).

In reading texts, the most commonly used tenses are present simple, past simple, present perfect, and future tenses. The study found that the use of tenses varies depending on the type of text. Word forms cover various aspects, including affixation, compounding, and changing word forms based on time or number. For example, in narratives, past simple is often used to describe events that have passed, creating a clear sense of time for the reader. On the other hand, present tense is often used in descriptive texts to give an immediate impression and make the reader feel involved in the situation being described.

The analysis shows that affixation, which is the addition of prefixes or suffixes to words, plays an important role in forming new meanings. For example, the word 'happy' can be changed to 'unhappy' with the addition of the prefix 'un' which directly changes the meaning of the word. This study found that texts rich in affixed word forms tend to be more interesting and provide variety that keeps readers engaged.

One of the significant findings of this journal is that tense variation can affect readers' understanding of the text. When tenses are used consistently and appropriately, readers tend to follow the storyline more easily. However, when writers use overly complex or unusual tenses, this can lead to confusion. For example, the use of technical terms without adequate explanation can be difficult for readers, especially for those who are not familiar with the context.

The research also highlights the importance of context in understanding word forms. Readers often rely on the context of sentences and paragraphs to interpret word meanings. In more complex texts, writers must provide enough clues for readers to understand the intended meaning. Vagueness in tenses can lead to misunderstanding and reduce the effectiveness of communication.

In an example story entitled "A trip to the beach", that day, Mia and her family *decided* to go to the beach. They *woke up* early in the morning and got ready excitedly. Mia, who loves the beach, packed her sand toys and towels into a bag. As they set off, the sun was shining brightly, and the sky looked cloudless blue (Mustangin & Muliya, 2023).

After a long journey, they finally *arrived* at the beach. Mia *runs* towards the waves, while her parent *prepare* a place to sunbathe. In this moment, the tenses used are past tense to describe actions that have already been completed *decided* got up and *arrived*. After a while, Mia *played* with the sand and *built* a magnificent castle. She *used* her bucket and shovel with great joy. Here, the use of the present continuous tense *playing* and *building* gives the impression that the action is ongoing and creates a lively atmosphere. As the time passed, Mia was hungry and called her parent for lunch. They *enjoy* a sandwich and refreshing drink under the umbrella. At this moment,

the use of present simple tense *felt* and *enjoy* indicates an ongoing habit or state. After eating, they *decided* to go swimming (Kustini & Ilyas, 2025). Mia *jumped* into the water and *felt* the freshness of the waves. Here again, the past tense *decided* and *jumped* is used to show actions that have already been done. When evening *arrived* they *realized* that it was late and *had* to go back. Mia *felt* very happy and *wished* she could go back again. In this sentence, the tenses used are present tense *realized* *had* to and *hoped* which reflects current feelings.

The story above uses various tenses to create a clear flow. The use of past tense provides a proper time context for the completed action, while present tense and present continuous tense give the impression that a certain action is ongoing or relevant to the current circumstances.

1. *past tense*: used to describe actions that have already happened, such as *decided* *got up* and *arrived*. It helps the reader understand the time sequence of the story.
2. *present simple*: used to express an ongoing state or habit, such as *felt* and *enjoyed*. It gives a situational feel that is closer to the reader.
3. *present continuous*: shows an action in progress, such as *playing* and *building*, so the reader can feel the dynamics of the situation.

## CONCLUSION

Through analyzing the tenses in this story, we can see how the use of different tenses helps build a clear and interesting narrative. The right choice of tenses not only clarifies the storyline, but also enriches the reading experience by providing a different dimension of time. This is in line with the findings in the journal “an analysis of tenses in reading text” which emphasizes the importance of understanding tenses in improving the readability and comprehension of texts (Javed et al., 2013).

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