TENSES
AND
THE TEACHING

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SUMMING UP:

There are practically 2 tenses in English - the past and
the present to indicate 3 time-frames of the past, the
present and the future.

Special and exceptional uses of the tenses and sub
tenses should be stressed. It may be advisable that use
of each tense (sub tense) be shown and drilled in all
the 4 forms simultaneously to the learners with the
help of tables of form-arrangement.

The behaviour and the pattern of the verb (to) be must
be thoroughly explained to the learners. The same
may be done in respect of the verb (to) do. Both have
peculiar use in English. The concept of indefinite and
definite, progressive, and perfective, progressive and
perfective nature of verbs has to be clear to the lear-
ners. This has to be done by steps from easy to difficult.

There are several ways to denote future time. It is
basically the mood of action that determines the futu-
ritu which is expressed by means of modal auxiliaries
or semi-auxiliaries or by simple present, past or even
progressive forms.

Verbs that are not to be used with the progressive
should be known to the learners with exceptions.

Tense-sense is best internalized through situational
and demonstrations.

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PUBLICATION NO 3