From Zero to Hero: Ethan's Tech Adventure

ESL Self-Study Worksheet: Past Simple, Present Perfect, and Modal Verbs

Objective: To practice the Past Simple Tense, Present Perfect Tense, and Modal Verbs.

1. Past Simple Tense

Explanation: The Past Simple Tense is used to describe actions that happened and finished in the past.

- Regular verbs add "-ed" to the base form (e.g., work - worked, play - played).
- Irregular verbs have different past tense forms (e.g., go - went, see - saw, eat - ate).

Examples:

- I **visited** my grandparents last weekend.
- She **studied** English at university.
- They **played** tennis yesterday.
- He **ate** breakfast this morning.

Practice Activity: Complete the following sentences using the Past Simple Tense of the verbs in parentheses:

1. He _____ (live) in London for five years.
2. They _____ (go) to the cinema last night.
3. She _____ (write) a letter to her friend.
4. We _____ (eat) pizza for dinner.
5. I _____ (see) a beautiful bird in the park.

2. Present Perfect Tense

Explanation: The Present Perfect Tense is used to describe past actions that have a connection to the present.

- We use "have" or "has" + the past participle of the main verb.
- The past participle of regular verbs is formed by adding "-ed."
- Irregular verbs have different past participle forms (e.g., gone, seen, eaten).

Examples:

- I **have lived** in this city for ten years.
- She **has visited** many countries.
- They **have eaten** already.

- He **has written** three books.
- We **have seen** that movie before.

Practice Activity: Complete the following sentences using the Present Perfect Tense of the verbs in parentheses:

1. She _____ (travel) to many countries.
2. I _____ (not see) him today.
3. They _____ (finish) their homework.
4. We _____ (live) here for five years.
5. He _____ (learn) to play the guitar.

3. Modal Verbs

Explanation: Modal verbs are auxiliary verbs that express possibility, ability, necessity, permission, etc. Some common modal verbs include:

- **can/could:** ability, possibility
- **must/have to:** necessity
- **should/ought to:** advice, obligation
- **may/might:** possibility, permission

Examples:

- I **can** speak English.
- You **must** wear a seatbelt.
- She **could** play the piano when she was young.
- We **should** go to bed early.
- They **may** be late.

Practice Activity: Complete the following sentences using the appropriate modal verb:

1. You _____ speak loudly in the library.
2. I _____ finish my work before I go home.
3. She _____ speak three languages.
4. We _____ go to the party tonight.
5. He _____ study harder if he wants to pass the exam.

Answer Key:

Past Simple Tense:

1. lived
2. went
3. wrote
4. ate

5. saw

Present Perfect Tense:

1. has traveled
2. have not seen / haven't seen
3. have finished
4. have lived
5. has learned

Modal Verbs:

1. must not / should not
2. have to / must
3. can
4. may / might
5. should