

**tense**

I

[tens] *n грам.*

время

present [past, future] tense - настоящее [прошедшее, будущее] время

II

**1. [tens] а**

1. 1) **натянутый, тугой; напряжённый**

tense muscles - напряжённые мускулы

tense silk of parasols - тугой шёлк зонтиков

tense rope - натянутая верёвка

his face was tense with pain - его лицо исказилось от боли

2) **фон. напряжённый**

tense vowel - напряжённый гласный

2. **возбуждённый, напряжённый**

tense anxiety - нервное напряжение

tense thought - напряжённая мысль

tense moment - напряжённый момент

tense voice - сдавленный голос

**2. [tens] v**

1. (*мж.* tense up)

1) **натягивать, напрягать**

he tensed (up) his muscles for the leap - он собрался для прыжка, он напряг мускулы перед прыжком

2) **натягиваться, напрягаться**

2. **преим. pass** возбуждать; создавать напряжение

they were tensed for orders - они с нетерпением ждали приказа /распоряжений/

**tense**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**tense** **AW** [tense tenses tensed tensing tenser tensest] **adjective, noun, verb** **BrE**

[tens] <sup>а</sup> **NAmE** [tens] <sup>а</sup>

**adjective**

1. (*of a person*) nervous or worried, and unable to relax

- He's a very tense person.

- She sounded tense and angry.

2. (*of a situation, an event, a period of time, etc.*) in which people have strong feelings such as worry, anger, etc. that often cannot be expressed openly

- I spent a tense few weeks waiting for the results of the tests.

- The atmosphere in the meeting was getting more and more tense.

3. (*of a muscle or other part of the body*) tight rather than relaxed

- A massage will relax those tense muscles.

4. (*of wire, etc.*) stretched tightly

**Syn:** ↑taut

5. (**phonetics**) (*of a speech sound*) produced with the muscles of the speech organs stretched tight

**Opp:** ↑lax

Word Origin:

**adj.** and **v.** late 17th cent. Latin **tensus** 'stretched' **tendere**

**n.** Middle English 'time' Old French **tens** Latin **tempus** 'time'

Example Bank:

- I was feeling a little tense and restless.

- Relations between the two leaders are visibly tense.

- The situation grew increasingly tense.

- There's no point in getting tense about the situation.

- He's a very tense person.

- I spent a few tense weeks waiting for the results of the tests.

- Try to relax. Are you always this tense?

Idiom: tensed up

Derived Words ↑tensely ▪ ↑tenseness

**noun** (**grammar**)

any of the forms of a verb that may be used to show the time of the action or state expressed by the verb

- the **past/present/future tense**

Word Origin:

**adj.** and **v.** late 17th cent. Latin **tensus** 'stretched' **tendere**

**n.** Middle English 'time' Old French **tens** Latin **tempus** 'time'

Example Bank:

- 'Have' is the auxiliary verb used to form perfect tenses.
- In the sentence 'I fed the cat', 'fed' is in the past tense.
- The '-ed' ending is used to form the past tense of regular verbs.
- the present simple tense
- the present tense marker 's'

### verb transitive, intransitive

if you tense your muscles, or you or your muscles tense, they become tight and stiff, especially because you are not relaxed

- ~ **sth/yourself (up)** She tensed her muscles in anticipation of the blow.
- He tensed himself, listening to see if anyone had followed him.
- ~ **(up)** His muscles tensed as he got ready to run.
- She tensed, hearing the strange noise again.

#### Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	tense
	BrE /tens/
	NA.mE /tens/
he / she / it	tenses
	BrE /tensɪz/
	NA.mE /tensɪz/
past simple, past participle	tensed
	BrE /tensɪd/
	NA.mE /tensɪd/
-ing form	tensing
	BrE /tensɪŋ/
	NA.mE /tensɪŋ/

#### Word Origin:

**adj.** and **v.** late 17th cent. Latin **tensus** 'stretched' **tendere**  
**n.** Middle English 'time' Old French **tens** Latin **tempus** 'time'

#### Example Bank:

- Expecting a blow, she tensed every muscle in her body.

## tense

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

### I. **tense**<sup>1</sup> **AC** /tens/ **BrE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **AmE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **adjective**

[Word Family: **noun**: ↑tenseness, ↑tension; **verb**: ↑tense; **adverb**: ↑tensely; **adjective**: ↑tense]

[Date: 1600-1700; Language: Latin; Origin: 'stretched', from the past participle of tendere; ⇨ ↑tend]

1. a tense situation is one in which you feel very anxious and worried because of something bad that might happen ⇨ **tension**  
**tense situation/atmosphere/moment etc**  
 " Marion spoke, eager to break the tense silence.
2. feeling worried, uncomfortable, and unable to relax **OPP relaxed** :  
 " Is anything wrong? You look a little tense.
3. unable to relax your body or part of your body because your muscles feel tight ⇨ **tension**:  
 " Massage is great if your neck and back are tense.  
 " She tried to relax her tense muscles.

—**tensely** **adverb**

—**tenseness** **noun** [uncountable]

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### THESAURUS

- **nervous** worried or a little frightened about something and unable to relax: Kelly was so nervous about her exam that she couldn't sleep. | It makes me nervous when you drive that fast.
- **tense** worried and unable to relax in a way that makes you get angry or upset easily: Mary's problems at work were making her tense and irritable.
- **uneasy** nervous because you feel that something bad might happen, so that you are unable to relax until the danger has passed: I began to feel uneasy when he still hadn't phoned by 11 o'clock.
- **on edge** if you are on edge or your nerves are on edge, you feel nervous because you are worried about what might happen: My nerves were on edge, waiting for the results of the test. | Redundancies and other work upheavals have put employees on edge.
- **neurotic** nervous and anxious in a way that is not normal or reasonable: She's completely neurotic about food hygiene. | a neurotic mother
- **edgy/jumpy/jittery** nervous because you are worried about what might happen: Investors are a little edgy about the financial markets these days. | There was a lot of pressure on the team tonight and that's why they were a little jumpy.
- **highly-strung** **British English**, **high-strung** **American English** becoming nervous or upset easily because that is your character: Like many musicians, he's very sensitive and highly-strung.
- **be a nervous wreck** to feel extremely nervous and unable to relax: After 10 months of teaching, I was a total nervous wreck.
- **have butterflies (in your stomach)** **informal** to feel nervous about something that you are going to do very soon because it is important and you want to do it well: Actors often have butterflies before going on stage.

### II. **tense**<sup>2</sup> **BrE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **AmE** <sup>ˈ</sup> (also **tense up**) **verb** [intransitive and transitive]

[Word Family: **noun**: ↑tenseness, ↑tension; **verb**: ↑tense; **adverb**: ↑tensely; **adjective**: ↑tense]

to make your muscles tight and stiff, or to become tight and stiff:

Relax, and try not to tense up so much.

Every time the phone rang, she tensed.

III. **tense**<sup>3</sup> *BrE* <sup>3</sup> *AmE* <sup>3</sup> *noun* [uncountable and countable]

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: Old French; Origin: tens *'time, tense'*, from Latin tempus *'time'*]

any of the forms of a verb that show the time, continuance, or completion of an action or state that is expressed by the verb. 'I am' is in the present tense, 'I was' is past tense, and 'I will be' is future tense.

**tense**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **6380**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **1734**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **3k** TENSE 22366

tense 4750

tensed 615

tenses 305

tensing 168

tension 10988

tensely 167

tenser 26

tensest 18

tensions 5329

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

2816 **9267**<sup>3431</sup> *jj*

815 **22196**<sup>922</sup> *vv0*

178 **44389**<sup>278</sup> *nn1*

109 **71141**<sup>113</sup> *vvi*

5 **355062**<sup>6</sup> *nnu*