TENSE BUSTER ADVANCED • 5

What is Tense Buster?

Tense Buster is a multimedia program that helps learners improve their grammar skills. The program is available at five levels of difficulty: **Elementary**, **Lower Intermediate**, **Intermediate**, **Upper Intermediate**, and **Advanced**. We recommend that Tense Buster Upper Intermediate and Advanced be used with LINC Five learners.

Tense Buster features are shared among the five Tense Buster programs. In each level, we discuss the features that we think are most relevant to that level. However, the features discussed in one level are not limited to that level only. They build on those discussed in the previous levels. Therefore, before teaching this level, make sure that your learners are familiar with the skills in the previous levels. If you are new to Tense Buster, we recommend that you read the Tense Buster sections in the previous LINC levels before proceeding to this section.

Features

TENSE BUSTER ADVANCED

■ Tense Buster Advanced consists of the following seven units:

- Past Perfect
- Articles
- Reported speech
- Passives
- Phrasal verbs
- Vocabulary
- How to learn faster

Each unit is made up of several exercises. Highlighting a unit title in the main menu (e.g., Reported speech-see picture) opens a cascading menu of the exercises available in that unit.
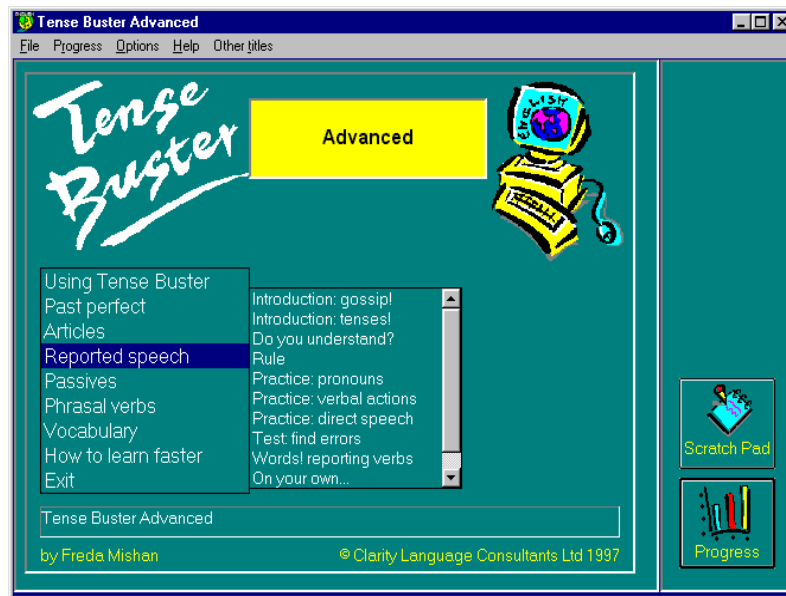
Tense Buster Advanced Main Menu

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■ **Unit Structure**

Each unit may include some or all of the following:

- **Introduction--**Introduces the language area that learners will be working on.
- **Do you understand?--**Builds on Introduction through additional exercises.
- **Rule**--Explanation of the grammar rule in appropriate language for the level. Learners can print the rules.
- **Practice**--One or more exercises to allow learners to practise the grammar lesson in the unit. Practice exercises often include hints and feedback. A hint is a clue to direct the learner to type or select the right answer. A feedback is a detailed explanation about the correct answer. Usually, the learners have access to the rule in practice exercises. The Marking button shows the correct and wrong answers in the exercise.
- **Test**--One or more exercises to allow learners to further practise the grammar focus in the unit. Like Practice, Test also has marking buttons to mark the exercise. Some tests include hints. The feedback provides explanation of the correct answer.

How to use Tense Buster with LINC Five learners

At this level, learners need to have mastered the skills described in previous LINC levels to competently locate and work on an exercise, mark and redo if necessary, use the Scratch Pad, manipulate the print options, and check and monitor their progress. Learners should be able to work on exercises independently. Please refer to the Skills Checklist at the end of this section to see a list of the skills recommended for LINC Five.

Since Tense Buster is not theme based, it is not always possible to integrate its contents into your ESL unit. However, the Authoring Kit, which is available in five levels, allows you to develop activities that are relevant to your unit. Each level in this guide contains an example of an exercise created for that level using the Authoring Kit.

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Curriculum-unit-related activities

The following Tense Buster exercises tie in with the specified units in the LINC Five Curriculum Guidelines.

| Tense Buster Upper Intermediate			
Unit	**Topic**	**Tense Buster Unit**	**Exercise**
Business	Starting a Small Business	The Present Perfect tense	Test: find errors! correct errors
	Customer Service	Past Continuous	Test: errors
Health & Safety	Health Care Practitioners	Conditionals	Words! Reading-Click Next
Tense Buster Advanced			
Business	Starting a Small Business	Phrasal Verbs	Introduction
		Articles	Practice: Small Ads
		Passives	The Coca Cola Story
Relationships	Professional Relationship	Reported Speech	Introduction: gossip Practice: Direct Speech

Skills Checklist for Learners

Skills Level	Function	How to...
1	Open Tense Buster	Click **Start** | **Programs** | **Clarity** | **Tense Buster Elementary**.
2	Log-in	In the box, type in your name. Click **OK**.
1	Open exercise	Click on the unit. Select an exercise in the cascading menu and click it.
3	Open Tutorial	Click on **Using Tense Buster** in Tense Buster main menu.
1	Exit Tense Buster	Click **Exit** on the main menu.
		Click ☒ on the top right corner of the Tense Buster window.

Marking, Options, and Hint

2	Mark exercise	Click on **Marking** button in the exercise. Click **No** if you want to see the marking.
3	See answers to an exercise	Click on **Marking** button in the exercise. Click **No.** Click **See the answers**.
3	Return to exercise and try again	Click on **Marking** button in the exercise. Click **Yes**.
		Click on **Marking** button in the exercise. Click **No**. Click **Try again**.
3	Skip exercise	Click on **Marking** button in the exercise. Click **No**. Click **Finish**.
		Click **Next** . Click **OK**.
3	Change type of marking	If an exercise allows options (you will see the word Options in the yellow area), click **Options** on the menu bar and click on Use **instant marking** or Use **Delayed marking**.
3	See hints	If hint is available, hold **Ctrl** key down and click on a blank or a mistake.

Feedback

4	Close feedback window	■ Click ☒ on the top right corner of feedback window. ■ Click **File** | **Go back** on the menu bar. ■ Click **Go back** on the menu bar.

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Skills

Level	Function	How to...
4	See feedback for exercise	Click on **Marking** button in the exercise. Click **No**. Click **See Answers**. Click **Feedback**.

Vocabulary

Level	Function	How to...
4	Look up a word in a unit	Click **Vocabulary** on the right side of the unit.
4	Listen to the pronunciation of a word	Click on any underlined word in the vocabulary window.
4	Exit vocabulary window	■ Click ☒ on the top right corner of feedback window. ■ Click **File	Go back** on the menu bar. ■ Click **Go back** on the menu bar.

Scratch Pad

Level	Function	How to...
3	Open Scratch Pad	Click **Scratch Pad**
3	Close Scratch Pad	Click ☒ on the top right corner of the scratch pad window.

Progress

Level	Function	How to...
4	Check progress	Click **Progress** on the bottom right corner of the exercise. Select an option.
4	Exit progress menu	■ Click **Go back** on the bottom left corner of progress menu. ■ Click **File	Go back** on the menu bar.

Print Options

Level	Function	How to...
2	Print exercise	Click on **Printing** button . Select **The exercise**. Select an option. Click **OK**.
3	Print rule	■ Click on **Printing** button . Select **The Rule**. Click **OK**. ■ Click on **Rule** button . Click **File	Print** on the menu bar.

Navigation Tools

Level	Function	How to...
1	Move to next exercise	Click **Next** in any exercise. Click **OK**.

COMPUTER ASSISTED LANGUAGE LEARNING

Skills

Level	Function	How to...
1	Move to previous exercise	Click [Back] in any exercise. Click **OK**.
1	Go back to Main Menu	Click ◀◀ in any exercise. Click **OK**.

Text Manipulation

1	Insert text	Click on the blank line where you want to enter text. A text box opens with a blinking cursor. Key in text.
1	Edit text	Click anywhere on the text you want to edit. A text box appears with a blinking cursor. Delete or backspace existing text and key in new text.

Mouse Skills

1	Point	Move mouse on screen until the tip of the mouse pointer is on the desired text or image.
1	Click	Press and release the left mouse button once.
1	Drag	Press and hold the left mouse button while moving the mouse; release the left mouse button when in desired place.