TENSE EXCHANGES

Tense exchanges occur when the past and present tenses of the same verb lock on to, or interlock with, another letter or letters to make two other words. Thus FALL and FELL appear in FALLOW and FELLOW, locked on to -OW; RUN and RAN appear in RUIN and RAIN, interlocked with -I. The tenses always appear in the same position(s) in the two words. Past tenses ending with –ED are excluded. Occasionally, the two whole words which incorporate the two tenses form two other tenses themselves, as in the case of STRIDE and STRODE. Such examples are asterisked*. The present tense is given first. Tense exchanges can be categorized according to where the tenses appear in the words.

TENSE BEGINNINGS

BINDER - BOUNDER
FEELING - FELTING
FLYE (fly) - FLEWE (flue)
GRINDER - GROUNDER
GROWT (grout) - GREWT (groot = soil)
HANGER - HUNGER
LEADER - LEDER (an old form of ‘leader’ and ‘leather’)
MAKE (make) - MADEN (maiden)
RUNT - RANT  RUNG - RANG  RUNCH (wild mustard) - RANCH
SEEN - SAWN  SEEING - SAWING
SELLER - SOLDER
SITE - SATE
SLIDES - SLIDS (sleds)
SPINK (the yellow-hammer) - SPUNK
SPITE - SPATE
STINKARD (one who stinks) - STUNKARD (sulky, sullen)
TEACHEN (teach) - TAUGHTEN (= tauten, to tighten)
WINDED - WOUNDED

TENSE ENDINGS

SH&W - SHWERE  (swear)
TARE - TWERE (= tuyere, the nozzle through which the blast is forced into a forge or furnace)
TURBITE (a fossil turbinate shell) - TURBIT (var. of domestic pigeon)
DEBITE (a deputy) - DEBIT
UNDO - UNDID*
FEAT - FATE  GREAT - GRATE  HEAT - HATE  MEAT - MATE  PLEAT - PLATE  SEAT - SATE
SAQO - SAWENT (an old form of ‘seven’)
SHAVE - SHAD (any clupeoid of the genus Alosa)
SHEAR - SHEARD (shard = a cleft, gap)
RELAY - RELAID
CLEAVE - CLEFT
RELEN - RELENT
SLIGHT - SLIT  FLIGHT - FLIT
GLOSE (gloze - an exposition) - GLOST (a lead glaze)
TREND - TRENT
PRISE - PROSE
RESEND - RESENT  ASSEND (ascend) - ASSENT
LAPSING - LAPSANG (Souchong)
ASLEEP - ASLEPT
STAKE - STOOK  MISTAKE - MISTOOK*
SWEEP - SWEPT* (phrase)
SWEAR - SWERE*
TENSE IN THE MIDDLE
POARED (pored, as in pored over a book) - POWERED
MEATY - MATEY
STRINGER - STRANGER
BRUNCH - BRANCH GRUNGE - GRANGE DRUNK - DRANK GRUNT - GRANT
CRISPITE (a kind of Rutile, an ore of titanium = Sagenite) - CRISPATE (having a curled margin – in Botany and Zoology)

TOO TENSE
Each tense is split into 2 groups of 1 or more letters which interlock with the remaining letters.
FLINDER - FLOUNDER
SITS - SWATS
BRUN - BRAIN
SMITHER (a smith, smithier; a handyman) - SMOTHER
STORY - STORIED
STREAKED - STROKED

EXTREMELY TENSE
Each tense is split into 2 groups of 1 or more letters which form the beginning and end of the word.
BRID (bird, bred) - BRADE (braid)
BRUY (OF. bride) - BROUGHT
CLATCH (clutch=a brood) - CLAUGHT (a sudden snatch)
CLICKING - CLUCKING
FREED - FRED (phrase)
FRIGHT - FROUGHT (fraught)
FLITING (wrangling) - FLITTERING FLITTERING - FLITTERING
GRIVE (grieve) - GRAVE
HANS - HAND
STAY - STAID (phrase)
SPEND - SPENT*
STING - STUNG* SICKLING - SUCKLING
STINK - STANK*
SILT - SALT, SPIT - SPAT* SLIT - SLAT
SLIMMING - SLUMMING
STINTING - STUNTING or STINTING - STUNTING
WRITHE - WROTHE (adv. wrothly, angrily)

TENSE ALL OVER
Each tense is split into 3 individual letters which interlock with the remaining letters.
GREAT - GROAT
HEARS - HEARD* HOARS - HOARD
SHIFT - SHAFT (phrase)

HIGHLY STRUNG
The same two words may incorporate two or more different pairs of tenses. They really are highly strung!
2 different pairs of tenses:
PLAY - PLAID PLAY - PLAID
SLINKER - SLUNKER (a spent female sturgeon) SLINKER - SLUNKER
SPRING - SPRUNG* SPRING - SPRUNG
SPRITE - SPRATE, SPRITE - SPRATE (sprat)
STICKLING (stickleback) - STUCKLING STICKLING - STUCKLING
STIFFING - STUFFING STUFFING - STUFFING
SWILING (sealing = catching seals) SWILING (suling = ploughing) SWILING - SWULING

3 different pairs of tenses:
STRING - STRUNG* STRING - STRUNG STRING - STRUNG