

Key Answers to Exercises:

The Simple Present and the Present Continuous

Put the verbs in brackets into the simple present or the present continuous tense.

1 Cuckoos **don't build** nests. They **use** the nests of other birds. (General truth)

2 You can't see Tom now: he **is having** a bath. (Action taking place at the moment of speaking)

3 He usually **drinks** coffee but today he **is drinking** tea. (The first verb (drinks) is a habitual action the second verb (is drinking) is a temporary action=unlike the habit)

4 What **does she do** in the evenings? ~ (Question about a habitual action=evenings in the plural form means every evening)

She usually **plays** cards or **watches** TV. (Habitual actions)

5 I won't go out now as it **is raining** and I **don't have** an umbrella. (is raining: now at the moment of speaking/ don't have: I don't have an umbrella now at the moment of speaking but HAVE is verb of possession can't be conjugated in the continuous tenses)

6 The last train **leaves** the station at 11.30. (Scheduled action/future plan that refers to a journey)

7 He usually **speaks** so quickly that I **don't understand** him. (Habitual actions)

8 Ann **is making** a dress for herself at the moment. She **makes** all her own clothes.

(is making: action happening at the moment of speaking/ makes: habitual action)

9 Hardly anyone **wears** a hat nowadays. (Habitual action "nowadays")

10 I'm afraid I've broken one of your coffee cups. — Don't worry. I **don't like** that set anyway.

(I don't like it 'now' but the "like" is a verb of emotion that can't be conjugated in the continuous tenses)

11 I'm **wearing** my sunglasses today because the sun is very strong. (temporary action=I'm wearing them exceptionally today because the sun is very strong)

12 Tom can't have the newspaper now because his aunt **is reading** it. (Action happening at the moment of speaking)

13 I'm busy at the moment. I'm **redecorating** the sitting room. (Action happening at the moment of speaking)

14 The kettle **is boiling** now. Shall I make the tea? (Action happening at the moment of speaking)

15 **Are you enjoying** yourself or would you like to leave now? – I'm **enjoying** myself very much. I **want** to stay to the end. (Are you/ I'm enjoying: actions happening at the moment of speaking-it is a verb of feeling and

emotion that can be conjugated in the continuous tenses/ I want: an action happening at the moment of speaking but it is a verb of feeling that cannot be conjugated in the continuous tenses so it's conjugated in the simple present instead)

**For the rest of the exercise and key answers check exercise 31 p.52 and p.155 in the exercises book (Practical English Grammar).*

The simple present and the present continuous

Put the verbs in brackets into the simple present or present continuous tense.

1 What **does** Tom **think** of the Budget? – (present verb of mental activity used to give opinion that can't be conjugated in the continuous tenses so it's put in the simple present)

He **thinks** it most unfair. ~ (present verb of mental activity used to give opinion that can't be conjugated in the continuous tenses so it's put in the simple present)

I **agree** with him. (present verb of mental activity that can't be conjugated in the continuous tenses so it's put in the simple present)

2 What **does** this one **cost**?- It **costs** forty pence. (Present - what does it cost NOW? It costs..NOW –but since it is a stative verb of cost that cannot be conjugated in the continuous tenses so the simple present is used instead)

3 Do you **hear** the wind? It **is blowing** very strongly tonight. (Do you hear: present verb (do you hear it now?) but it is a verb of sense that can't be conjugated in the continuous so the simple present is used instead/ is blowing: action happening at the moment of speaking)

4 Do you **see** my car keys anywhere? – (do you see (now): present verb of sense that can't be used in the continuous so the simple present is used instead—the same thing for I **don't see** them)

No, I **am looking** for them but I **don't see** them. (I'm looking=I'm searching: action happening at the moment of speaking)

5 He never **listens** to what you say. He **is** always **thinking** about something else. (Listens: habitual action (never)/ is always thinking: think is not used to give opinion so the present continuous can be used with always to indicate that the speaker is annoyed by this repeated action)

6 This book is about a man who **deserts** his family and **goes** to live on a Pacific island. (deserts/ goes: description of a book/ book content)

7 Do you **understand** what the lecturer is saying? ~ No, I (not understand) him at all. (Present (do you understand it now?/ I don't understand now) but because it is a verb of mental activity that can't be used with the continuous tenses the simple tense is used instead)

8 What **do** you **have** for breakfast usually? ~ I usually **eat** a carrot and **drink** a glass of cold water. (Habitual actions)

9 When the curtain **raises** we **see** a group of workers. They **are picketing** factory gate. (raises/ see: Description of a play action/scene...they are picketing: the present continuous is used to indicate that the action starts before the curtain raises and continues after. We can also think of it as an action happening at a present point of time (at the moment the curtain raises and we see/ or happening at the moment of speaking)

10 Why **are you walking** so fast today? You usually **walk** quite slowly. ~ (are you walking: temporary action that happens unlike the habit/ walk: habitual action)

I'm **hurrying** because I'm **meeting** my mother at 4 o'clock and she **does not like** to be kept waiting. (I'm hurrying: temporary action happening at the moment of speaking/ I'm meeting: future arrangement/ doesn't like: present verb of emotion that can't be conjugated in the continuous so the simple present is used instead)

11 I **wish** that dog would lie down. He **keeps** jumping up on my lap. ~ I **think** he **wants** to go for a walk. (Verbs of feeling and emotion (wish/ wants), verb of mental activity used to give opinion (think), stative verb (keeps) that cannot be conjugated in the continuous so the simple present is used instead)

12 Do you **recognize** that man? ~ I **think** that I have seen him before but I **don't remember** his name **Recognize/ think=opinion/ don't remember**: present verbs of mental activity that can't be conjugated in the present continuous so the simple present is used instead)

13 Look at that crowd. I **wonder** what they **are waiting** for. (Wonder: present verb of mental activity not normally used in the continuous/ are waiting: action happening at the moment of speaking)

14 This message has just arrived and the man **is waiting** in case you **want** to send a reply. (is waiting: action happening at the moment of speaking/ want: verb of feeling and emotion not normally conjugated in the continuous so the simple present is used instead)

15 Stop! **Don't you see** the notice? ~ I **see** it but I can't read it because I'm **not wearing** my glasses. What does it **say**? ~ It **says** 'These premises are patrolled by guard dogs'. (don't see/ see: present verbs of senses not normally conjugated in the continuous so the simple present is used instead./ I'm not wearing: action happening at the moment of speaking./ does it say/ says: description and quotation from a notice so the simple present is used)

**For the rest of the exercise and key answers check exercise 32 p.54 and p.156 in the exercises book (Practical English Grammar).*

The Simple Past and the Past Continuous

Put the verbs in brackets into the simple past or the past continuous tense.

1 I lit the fire at 6.00 and it **was burning** brightly when Tom came in at 7.00. (The past continuous is used with a simple past verb as a point in time to indicate that the action of burning started before "Tom came" and continued after.

2 When I arrived the lecture had already started and the professor **was writing** on the overhead projector. (**was writing** is in the past continuous with the simple past verb “arrived” to indicate that it started before it and continued after)

3 I **was making** a cake when the light went out. I had to finish it in the dark. (**Past continuous** is used with another verb in the simple past “went out” to indicate that it started before and continued after)

4 I didn't want to meet Paul so when he entered the room I **left**. (**Successive actions in the past: I left immediately after Paul entered the room**)

5 Unfortunately when I arrived Ann **was just leaving**, so we only had time for a few words. (**She was about to leave=at the point of leaving: used with another verb in the simple past (When I arrived) as a past point in time**) or (it is a past continuous action that was interrupted by another action in the simple past)

6 He **was watching** TV when the phone rang (the past continuous indicated that the verb started before and continued until it was interrupted by another verb in the simple past ‘rang’) or (It is a past continuous action that was interrupted by another action in the simple past). Very unwillingly he **turned down** the sound and **went to answer** it. (**Turned/ went: successive past actions that immediately happened after the phone rang**)

7 He was very polite. Whenever his wife **entered** the room he **stood up**. (**Past habits/ habitual actions in the past: the subject is dead=He was very polite= so there is no possibility for these actions to happen again**)

8 The admiral **was playing** bowls when he **received** news of the invasion. He **insisted** on finishing the game. (**He was playing: the action started before another verb in the simple past ‘the news came’ and continued after it;/ received and insisted are two successive actions in the past=once he received the news he insisted to**)

9 My dog **was walking** along quietly when Mr. Pitt's Pekinese attacked him. (**The past continuous is used here to indicate the action of walking started before and continued until it was interrupted by another verb in the simple past “attacked”**)

10 When I arrived she **was having** lunch. She apologized for starting without me but said that she always **lunched** at 12.30. (**Was having: it is a past continuous action that started before another one in the simple past “arrived”/ lunched: reported speech after the verb said (in the simple past)**)

**For the rest of the exercise and key answers check exercise 36 p.59 and p.157 in the exercises book (Practical English Grammar).*

The Simple Past and the Past Continuous

Put the verbs in brackets into the simple past or past continuous tense.

1 Mr. Smith never **woke** up in time in the mornings and always **got or was always getting** into trouble for being late; so one day he **went** to town and **bought** an alarm clock. (**Woke-up: Habitual action in the past (never)/ got: habitual action in the past (always)/ was always getting: the past continuous can be used here with always to**

indicate the speaker's anointment by a past action)/ went+ bought: past finished action in a finished period of time.

2 To get home he had (past obligation or obligation in a past finished period of time) to go through a field where a bad-tempered bull usually grazed or was usually grazing (grazed: habitual action in the past (usually)/ was usually grazing: the past continuous to show the speaker was annoyed by some action in the past)

3 This bull didn't normally chase people unless something made him angry (didn't chase/ made: Habitual actions in the past). Unfortunately, as Mr. Smith was crossing the field, his alarm clock went off. (was crossing: past continuous action that was interrupted by another simple past action "went off"/ went off: is a past finished action in a finished period of time)

4 This annoyed the bull, who immediately began to chase Mr. Smith. (annoyed/ began: past finished action in a finished period of time/ or two successive actions in the past)

5 Mr. Smith was carrying an open umbrella as it was slightly raining (was carrying/ was raining: two .continuous actions happening in parallel. The past continuous can also be used here because it is a narrative description of past events. The use of the past continuous here is also justified because these are two past continuous actions that were interrupted by two other simple past actions "threw and run"). He threw the umbrella to the ground and run away as fast as he could (Threw/ Run: are two successive finished actions in a finished period of time).

6 The bull stopped and began to attack the umbrella (stopped/ began: two successive finished actions that happened in a finished period of time). While he was doing (past continuous action that was interrupted by another action in the simple past "escaped")this Mr. Smith escaped.

7 When he awoke she was sitting by the window. She was looking at something in the street, but when he called her she turned and smiled at him. (Narrative description in which the simple past and past continuous can be sued). (awoke: finished action in a finished period of time that interrupted another continuous past action "was sitting". was sitting/ was looking: are two paralleled continuous actions in the past interrupted by the simple past action "called". Called/ turned/ smiled: are three successive finished actions)

8 Why did you interrupt (finished action) me just now? I was having a very interesting conversation with Mr. Pitt. (When you interrupted I was having: a past continuous action that was interrupted by another simple past action "interrupt")

9 The murderer was carrying the corpse down the stairs when he heard a knock on the door.

10 When I was looking through your books I noticed that you have a copy of Murder in the Cathedral.

**For the rest of the exercise and key answers check exercise 37 p.60 and p.157 in the exercises book (Practical English Grammar).*

The Present Perfect and the Simple Past

Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect or the simple past tense

1 This is my house. ~ How long **have you been living /have you lived** here? ~ I **have been living / I have lived** here since 1970. (both verbs are unfinished actions in unfinished periods of time/ they are actions that started in the past and continued to the present, i.e., the subject is still living in that house)

2 He **lived** (finished action in a finished period of time) in London for two years and then **went** (finished action in a finished period of time) to Edinburgh.

3 **Did you wear** your hair long when you were at school? ~ Yes, my mother **insisted** on it.(**did you wear/ insisted**: both are finished actions in a completed period of time “when the subject was at school but he’s no longer there”)

4 But when I **left** school I **cut** my hair and **have worn** it short ever since. (**left/ cut**: completed actions in a completed period of time. I’ve worn: an action that started in the past and continued to the present/ an uncompleted action in an uncompleted period of time, i.e. the subject is still wearing it short)

5 Shakespeare **wrote** a lot of plays. (completed action in a completed period of time/ there is no opportunity for the action to happen again because the writer Shakespeare died)

6 My brother **has written** several plays. He **has just finished** his second tragedy. (both verbs are in the present perfect because they are actions that started in the past and continued to the present. Has written: is an action that started in the past and may continue and appear again in the future because the writer is still alive. Has just finished: is a recent action, i.e., happened recently)

7 I **flew** over Loch Ness last week. ~ **Did you see** the Loch Ness monster? (**flew/ did you see**: finished actions in a finished period of time “last week”)

8 I **haven’t seen** him for three years. I wonder where he is. (an unfinished action in an unfinished period of time-the action of not seeing his started in the past and continued to the present I still wonder where he is)

9 He **hasn’t smoked** for two weeks. He is trying to give it up. (unfinished action in an unfinished period of time)

10 Chopin **composed** some of his music in Majorca. (finished action in a finished period of time-the subject is dead and can’t compose any music anymore)

**For the rest of the exercise and key answers check exercise 40 p.66 and p.158 in the exercises book (Practical English Grammar).*

The Present Perfect and the Simple Past

Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect or simple past tense.

1 Where is Tom?- I **haven't seen** him today, but he **told** Mary that he'd be in for dinner. (haven't seen: Unfinished action (I still don't see him) in an unfinished period of time (today=the day is not finished yet)/ told: finished action in the past)

2 I **bought** this in Bond Street. ~ How much **did you pay** for it? ~ I **paid** \$100. (bought/did you pay/ paid: are finished actions that took place at definite time which is clearly now terminated-when I was in Bond Street and I'm no longer there)

3 Where **did you find** this knife? ~ I **found** it in the garden. ~ Why **didn't you leave** it there? (finished actions at a past definite point of time that is clearly finished)

4 I've **lost** my black gloves (an unfinished action=I'm still looking for them). Have you **seen** (recent action) them anywhere? ~ No, I'm afraid I... When **did you last wear** them (finished action=you're no longer wearing them+ asking about the time in which the action took place)? ~ I **wore** them at the theatre last night (finished action in a finished period of time=last night). ~ Perhaps you **left** them at the theatre night (finished action in a finished period of time=last night).

5 Do you know that lady who **has just left** the shop (recent action=just=a few seconds ago)? ~ Yes, that is Miss Thrift. Is she a customer of yours? ~ Not exactly. She **has been** (unfinished action she still can come in the future and she has just been here) in here several times but she **has never bought** anything (unfinished action she still can come in the future and she has just been here without buying anything).

6 He **left** the house at 8.00. ~ Where **did he go**? ~ I **didn't see** where he **went**. (all of these are finished actions at a finished point in time 8:00)

7 He **served** in the First World War. ~ When **did that war begin**? ~ It **began** in 1914 and **lasted** for four years. . (all of these are finished actions in a finished period of time 1914-1917)

8 Who **did you vote** for at the last election? ~ I **voted** for Mr. Pitt. ~ He **wasn't** elected, **was** he? ~No, he **lost** his deposit. (All of these actions were terminated/finished in a finished period of time= period of last elections which clearly took place at a definite time that is finished)

9 **Did you like** your last job? ~ I **didn't like** it at first but then I **quarreled** with my employer and he **dismissed** me. ~ How long **were you there**? ~ I **was** there for two weeks. (All of these actions were terminated/finished in a finished period of time= the period when I was in my previous job which clearly took place at a definite time that is now finished)

10 I **didn't know** (but now I know so it is a finished action) that you **knew** (after the verb to know in the simple "I didn't know" past= it is a reported speech=the speaker is reporting what he didn't know. So I didn't know functions as "said" in reported speech) Mrs. Pitt. How long **have you known** her (Unfinished action= you still know him and the person is still alive we say how long did you know him if Mrs. Pitt is dead)? ~ I **have known**

(Unfinished action in an unfinished/recent period of time= you still know him and the person is still alive we say how long did you know him if Mrs. Pitt is dead) her for ten years.

**For the rest of the exercise and key answers check exercise 41 p.67 and p.159 in the exercises book (Practical English Grammar).*

The Present Perfect and the Present Perfect Continuous

Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect or the present perfect continuous tense.

(In some cases either could be used.)

- 1 We **have walked** (recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the result) ten kilometers.
- 2 We **have been walking** (very recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the duration+ the action started in the past and continued up to the time of speaking) for three hours.
- 3 You **have walked** (recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the result) too fast. That's why you are tired.
- 4 I **Have been making** (very recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the duration+ the action started in the past and continued up to the time of speaking) sausage rolls for the party all the morning.
- 5 How many **have you made?** ~ I **have made** 200. (recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the result)
- 6 That boy **has eaten** seven ice-creams. (recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the result)
- 7 He **hasn't stopped** eating since he arrived. (recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the action itself/result=not stop eating)
- 8 The driver **has been drinking**. I think someone else ought to drive.
- 9 I **have pulled up** 100 dandelions. (recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the result)
- 10 I **have been pulling up** dandelions all day. (very recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the duration+ the action started in the past and continued up to the time of speaking)
- 11 What **have you been doing?** ~ We **have been picking** apples. (very recent/unfinished action which is probably still continuing+ the action started in the past and continued up to the time of speaking)
- 12 How many **have you picked?** ~ We **have picked** ten basketfuls. (recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the result)
- 13 I **have slept** on every bed in this house and I don't like any of them. (recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the result)
- 14 He **has slept/has been sleeping** since ten o'clock (has slept: recent/unfinished action where the focus is in on the action itself or the result 'sleeping'/ has been sleeping: very recent/unfinished action where the focus is in

on the duration=since 10:00 up to the time of speaking). It's time he woke (the simple past is used after “*it's time ...something happened/unreal past*” up.

15 He **has been riding**; that's why he is wearing breeches.’ (very recent/continuing action the subject is still wearing breeches+ the action started in the past and continued up to the time of speaking)

**For the rest of the exercise and key answers check exercise 43 p.71 and p.160 in the exercises book (Practical English Grammar).*

Simple Past, Past Perfect and Past Perfect Continuous

Exercise 1: Complete the sentences with the past simple or past perfect tense.

The past perfect is mainly used to show that the action before a point in time in the past or before another verb in the simple. So, it is used to show the chronological order of verbs in the past, i.e. which verb happened before the other.

1. After Fred **had spent** (past action that happened before another simple past action) his holiday in Italy he **wanted** (finished action in a finished period of time) to learn Italian.
2. Jill **had phoned** Dad at work before she **left** for her trip. (**had phoned**: the past perfect is used here because it is an action that happened before another one in the simple past/ **left**: past finished action in a finished period of time)
3. Susan **turned on** the radio after she **had washed** the dishes. (turning the radio on happened after washing the dishes so ‘turned on’ is in the simple past and ‘had washed’ is in the past perfect. However, this sentence can have another interpretation (as it is an ambiguous sentence) which is that Susan had turned on the radio and after that she washed the dishes in this case the verb ‘to turn on’ is to be put in the past perfect and ‘to wash’ is in the simple past.)
4. When she **arrived** the match **had already started**. (the match had started (past perfect) before she arrived (simple past))
5. After the man **had come** home he **fed** the cat.
6. Before he **sang** a song he **had played** the guitar.
7. She **watched** a video after the children **had gone** to bed.
8. After Eric **had made** breakfast he **phoned** his friend.
9. I **was** very tired because I **had studied** too much.
10. They **had ridden** their bikes before they **met** their friends.

Exercise 2: Complete the texts with the past simple or past perfect tense.

1. When I **was** 18 years old I **decided** to spend some time in America. But until I **had saved** enough money I **did not tell** anybody. My mum **was shocked**, because we **had never been** abroad. At that time **had had** a pen-friend in Vermont for nearly three years and I **had always wanted** to see her. I **knew** that my English **was** very good as I **had passed** Cambridge exams with grade A. Before I **started** to write to Wendy, it **had never come** to my mind that I could go to the States on my own. But after I **had decided** to set off I just **had** to go.

2. It **was** 11 o'clock. Carol Parker **had arrived** at the Shaw Hotel five minutes before. She **had tried** to find the hotel several times. Carol **had never been** to Dublin. She **had** a detailed map in her handbag, but she **could not** read it. She **had called** the reception and **had asked** about the way, but it **had not helped** her. Finally, Carol **found** the hotel. She was dying for a cup of tea and a hot shower.

Exercise 3:

- a. *Read the situations and complete the sentences using the past simple and/or the past perfect continuous*
Hint: *The past perfect continuous is generally used to show that the action that started before another one in the past continued up to the time which another simple past action happened. There is also usually more focus on the duration of the action that happened before another one in the simple past or to describe how the subject spent the time right before some other action in the simple past.*

e.g. We played tennis yesterday. Half an hour after we began playing it started to rain.

We had been playing for half an hour when it started to rain.

1. I had arranged to meet Tom in a restaurant. I arrived and waited for him. After 20 minutes I suddenly realized that I was in the wrong restaurant.

I had been waiting for 20 minutes when I realized that I was in the wrong restaurant (had been waiting:

2. Sarah got a job in a factory. Five years later the factory closed down. *(had been waiting: the past perfect continuous shows that the action of waiting started before another verb in the simple past 'realized' and continued up to the time that simple past verb 'realized' happened, i.e. I kept waiting for 20 min before I realized that I was waiting in the wrong restaurant)*

At the time the factory closed Sarah had been working there for five years (had been working: the action had continued to happen up to the time another one in the simple past 'closed'+ there is more focus on the duration of the past action rather than the result or the action itself so the past perfect continuous is to be used here not the past perfect)

3. I went to a concert last week. The orchestra began playing. After about ten minutes a man in the audience suddenly began shouting.

The orchestra had been playing for about 20 minutes (there is more focus on the duration in which the action took place+ the action had happened immediately before/ up to the time another one in the simple past happened 'the man began') when a man suddenly began shouting (a finished action in a finished period of time)

b. Read the situations and make sentences from the words in brackets.

e.g. I was very tired when I arrived home.

(I/work/ hard all day) I had been working hard all day.

1. The two boys came into the house. They had a football and they were both very tired.
(they/play/ football) had been playing football all day. (the past perfect continuous describe how the subject spent a specific period of time "the whole day" right before another action in the simple past "came into the house", i.e., what they had been doing the whole day before they came into the house)
2. There was nobody in the room but there was a smell of cigarettes.

(somebody/ smoke/ in the room) **Somebody had been smoking in the room. (i.e. somebody was smoking right before we came/ someone spent the time before we came smoking)**

3. Ann woke up in the middle of the night. She was frightened and didn't know where she was.
(she/ dream) **She had been dreaming. (she started dreaming some time before another verb in the simple past 'woke up' and continued dreaming until she woke up)**
4. When I got home, Mike was sitting in front of the TV. He had just turned it off.
(he/ watch/ TV) **He had been watching TV. (He had been watching TV right before I came in/the past perfect continuous shows that action started before and continued up to the time another verb in the simple past happened "got home")**

c. Put the verb into the most suitable form, past continuous, past perfect, or past perfect continuous

- 1 It was very noisy next door. Our neighbors **were having** a party. (**were having**: it is a continuous action that started before another one in the past 'it was noisy' and continued after it).
2. We were good friends (**the use of the simple past here indicates that the person is talking about is dead or that their friendship was ended-they're no longer friends**). We **had known** (**we had known each other before the end of our friendship/ the death of my friend**) each other for a long time.
- 3 John and I went for a walk. I had difficulty keeping up with him because he **was walking** so fast. (**was walking**: is an action that started before another action in the simple past 'I had difficulty' and continued after it)
- 4 Mary was sitting on the ground. She was out of breath. She **had been running** (**the past perfect continuous is used here to indicate that she had been running up to the time I saw her or to describe what had been doing right before I saw her**)
- 5 When I arrived, everybody was sitting round the table with their mouths full. They **were eating** (**the past continuous indicates here that they started eating before I came and they continued eating while and after I came**).
- 6 When I arrived, everybody was sitting round the table and talking. Their mouths were empty but their stomachs were full. They **had eaten**.
- 7 Jim was on his hands and knees on the floor. He **was looking** for his contact lenses.
- 8 When I arrived, Kate **was waiting** for me. She was rather annoyed with me because I was late and she **had been waiting** for a very long time.
- 9 I was sad when I sold my car, I **had been having it** for a very long time.
- 10 We were extremely tired at the end of the journey. We **had been travelling** for more than 24 hours.

Mixed Tenses

Choose the correct tenses.

1. Frank in Toronto? a) **Did you meet** b) Have you met c) Were you meeting
2. He had a break after he for two hours. a) was walking **b) had been walking** c) has walked
3. I her for a long time. a) know **b) have known** c) have been knowing
4. We the windows and the car on Saturday morning. a) were cleaning **b) cleaned** c) have been cleaning
5. I..... in York for a week in 1998. **a) worked** b) have been working c) have worked
6. I you in your office with a girl! Really? --We a) saw - 've just talked b) 've seen - just talked **c) saw - were just talking**
7. How many cupboards since yesterday? a) did they move **b) have they moved** c) have they been moving
8. As he a bike, a dog him. **a) was riding - bit** b) rode - bit c) was riding - has bitten
9. When the dog him, he his bike. a) was biting - fell off b) bit - was falling off **c) bit - fell off**
10. I didn't notice that you **a) had come** b) came c) have been coming
11. I can't stand it anymore. I the furniture since breakfast. a) am polishing b) have been polishing c) have polished
- 12..... the dishes yet? a) Has he washed b) Has he been washing c) Did he wash
13. They a hotel in York, but then they it. a) have bought - sold b) bought - have sold **c) bought – sold/had bought-sold is also possible**
14. She couldn't play yesterday because she..... her ankle the day before. a) have sprained b) sprained **c) had sprained**
15. I can't find Todd. Where is he? He..... in the garage. **a) 's been working** b) worked c) was working
16. She books on the shelves all day. That's why she is so exhausted. a) was putting b) has put **c) has been putting**
17. She's hurt her arm. - When it? a) has she hurt b) has she hurted **c) did she hurt**