

Simple Present Tense

Used: habits, facts

Usual words: every ..., usually, sometimes, never, etc.

Remember: +s with he/she/it Question/Negative: do/does

Stative verbs (non progressive verbs) are like facts—only simple present

1. My friend and I always _____ (speak)
English together.

2. Terry _____ (work) as a cook at a big
restaurant.

3. I _____ (think) Seattle is a beautiful city. =
fact (not action)

4. _____ your father _____ (speak)
English?

Present Progressive Tense

Used: action happening NOW, at the present time

Usual words: **now, right now, this ... , today**

Remember: be verb + verb -ing Question/Negative: be verb

5. Larry and Susan _____ (build) a new house.

6. My sister _____ (wear) a red hat today.

7. I _____ (think) about my family right now.

8. _____ you _____ (work) this morning?
(now)

Simple Past Tense

Used: finished action in the past

Usual words: yesterday, in (1987), last (week), (3 days) ago, this ... (past)

Remember: regular and irregular verbs Question/Negative: did

9. I _____ (forget) to do my homework last Monday.

10. Mr. And Mrs. Smith _____ (be) married in 1974.

11. When I _____ (be) a child, I _____ (like, not) vegetables.

12. _____ you _____ (work) this morning?
(finished, past)

14. I _____ (live) in California for many years. I _____
(move) here two years ago.

15. When I _____ (open) the package, I
_____ (find) a nice book.

Past Progressive Tense

Used: to show an action happening at a specific time in the past or at the same time as another action in the past (not so common)

Usual words: while, as, at (3:00) yesterday

Remember: past be verb + verb –ing **Question/Negative:** be verb



17. While I _____ (brush) my teeth, the lights went out. (long action) (short action)

18. Yesterday, while we _____ (clean) the bathroom, they _____ (wash) the dishes. (two actions at the same time in the past.)

19. What _____ your daughter _____ (do) last Monday at 4:30 PM?



Present Perfect

Used: to show a completed action sometime in the past (we don't know exactly when) to describe a repeated action, past up to now with a few words (work, play, study, teach) to show an action, past up to now

Usual words: already, yet, never, ever (question), (three) times so far, since, for

Remember: have/has + pp (careful for irregular verbs) Question/Negative:
have/has

19. A: _____ you ever _____ (see) a famous person?

B: No, I _____.

20. I _____ (write) three letters so far this quarter.

21. Mark _____ (live) in Seattle since 1990.

22. They _____ (work) here for many years.

23. I _____ (finish, already) my homework, but I
_____ (clean, not) my room yet

Present Perfect Progressive



Used: to show an action that began in the past and is happening now
to describe a recent action, to describe an unfinished action

Usual words: all (day), recently, lately, for, since

Remember: have/has + been+ verb-ing **Question/Negative:** have/has

24. I'm really tired. I _____ (write) on the computer all day.
25. Stephanie _____ (read) that book for three weeks
and she's still not finished.
26. A: What _____ (you, do) lately?
B: Oh, I _____ (work) a lot recently.
27. I'm sorry. My hands are dirty because I _____ (plant)
flowers in the garden.
28. This line is too long. We _____ (stand) here
since 2:00!

Simple Future

Used: to describe a future action

Usual words: tomorrow, in (three days), next (year)



Remember: will + verb / be + going to + verb (especially for a plan)

Question/Negative: will / won't + verb

**with future time words (before, after, when, as soon as, if, etc.) – use
present tense with some fact words (plan, intend, want, hope) use
present tense**

29. In two weeks, my family and I _____ (fly) to New York.

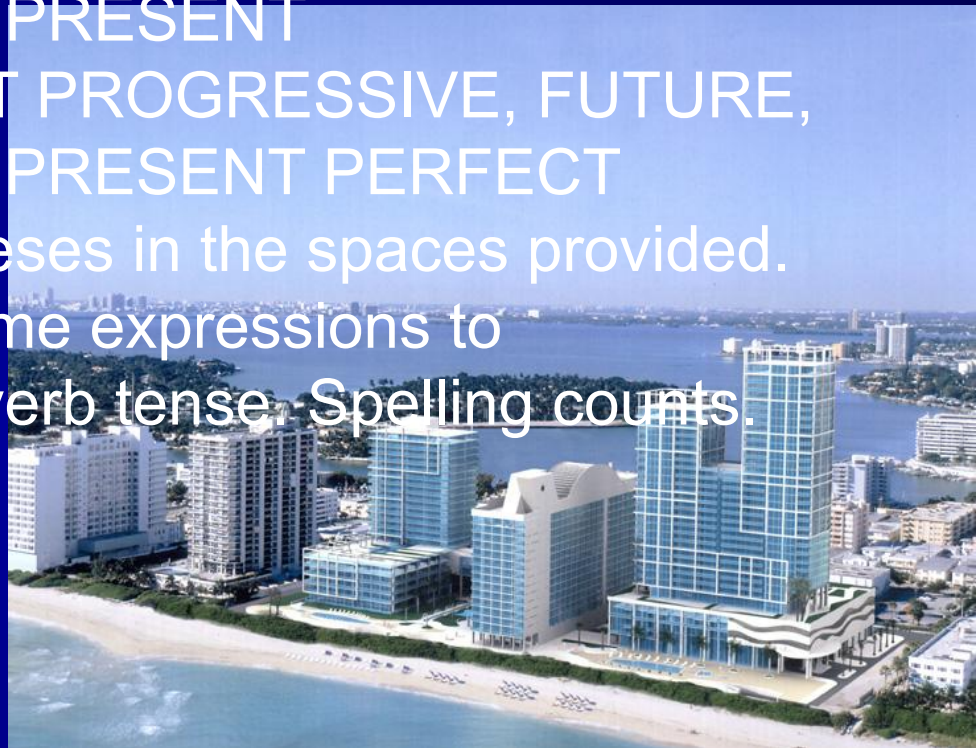
30. What _____ (you, do) tomorrow evening?

31. After Sarah _____ (finish) high school next spring, she
_____ (get) a job.

32. Next year, I _____ (plan) to take college classes

DIRECTIONS: Write the correct form of the verbs (SIMPLE PRESENT, PRESENT PROGRESSIVE, PAST, PAST PROGRESSIVE, FUTURE, PRESENT PERFECT, PRESENT PERFECT PROGRESSIVE) in parentheses in the spaces provided.

First, look at the time expressions to determine the appropriate verb tense. Spelling counts.



1. A: How long (YOUR SISTER, LIVE)

_____ in Miami?

B: She (BE) _____ here since she
(GRADUATE) _____ from college.

2. A: How (YOU,

LIKE) _____ my new car?

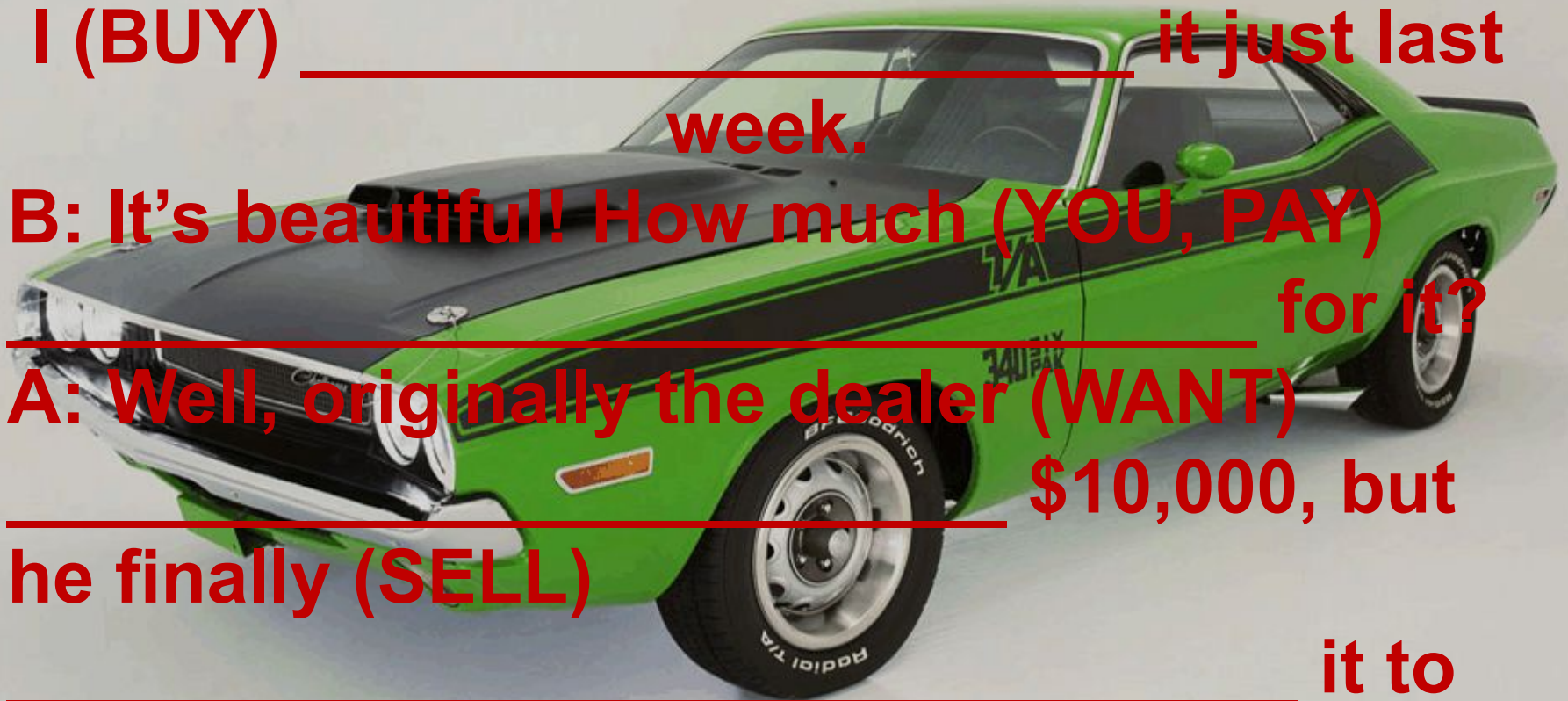
I (BUY) _____ it just last week.

B: It's beautiful! How much (YOU, PAY) _____ for it?

A: Well, originally the dealer (WANT) _____ \$10,000, but

he finally (SELL) _____ it to

me for \$9,000.



3. A: I (LOOK FOR)

_____ morning long. Where is he?

B: He's at the library. He (STUDY) _____ there since 8:00

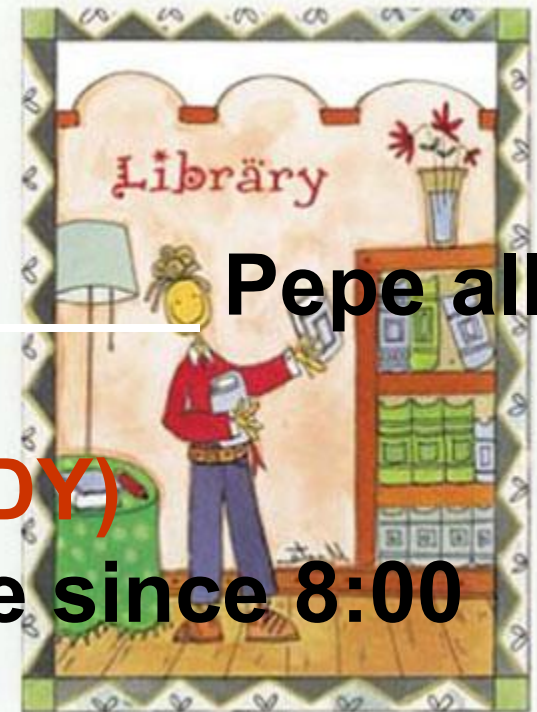
_____ a.m. because he (HAVE)

_____ a big test tomorrow.

A: What time (HE, BE)

_____ back?

B: He (COME) _____ home
when the library (CLOSE) _____.



4. A: Where's Tom?

B: He (BE) _____ on
the phone.

A: Oh. Who (HE, TALK)
_____ to?

B: To Marta. They (TALK)

for the past two hours!



5. A: (YOU, EVER, GO)

**_____ to the
Florida Keys?**

B: Yes. In fact, I (GO)

**_____ there
last week.**

Photo by Michael Sullivan

6. A: Hi. (YOU, BE)

_____ home later
this evening?

B: No. In fact, I (LEAVE)

_____ in a few minutes to
go to a movie.
(YOU, WANT)

_____ to come?
A: What (YOU, SEE)

_____ ?
B: The Mummy Returns.

A: No, thanks. I (SEE, ALREADY)
_____ it three
times.



7. A: (YOUR SON, HAVE)

_____ a driver's license?

B: Yes, he _____.

A: How long (HE, DRIVE)

_____?

B: Since he (BE) _____ sixteen years old.

A; (HE, HAVE, EVER)

_____ an accident?

B: Yes, he _____. He (HAVE)
_____ his first accident two

days after he (GET) _____

his license. He (HIT) _____ a

police car while he (PULL)

_____ out of the Publix
parking lot.





8. While Sue (BUY)

_____ gas at the
Shell station last night, someone (STEAL)
_____ her purse.

9. When Rosa (GO) _____
to Disneyworld next month, she
(VISIT) _____ the Epcot
Center. If she (HAVE) _____
enough money, she (VISIT)
_____ Universal
Studios, too.



Directions: Fill in the blanks with a form of the verb in parentheses. Use any appropriate verb tense.

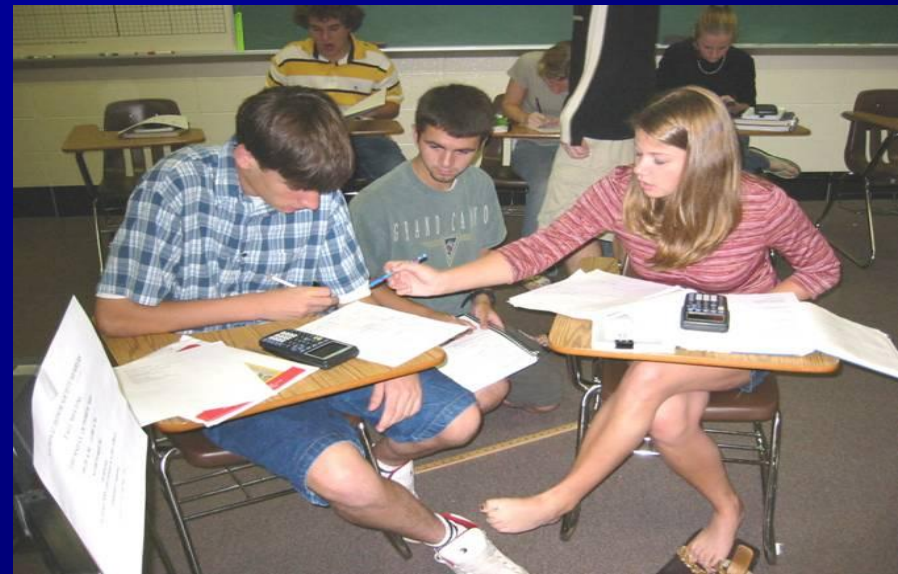
Two years ago, I (1)_____ (get) a job at a company called WordTech. Now, I (2)_____(use) computers at work every day, but before I (3)_____ (come) to the United States, I (4)_____ (touch-never) a computer. It (5)_____ (take-not) me very long to learn basic computer skills because I (6)_____ (take / already) a course in typing. By the time I (7)_____ (leave) my country, I (8)_____ (finish) secretarial school. While I (9)_____ (look) for a job here, I (10)_____ (take) a course in information technology. I (11)_____ (continue) to learn new things since I (12)_____ (start) working at WordTech. For example, now I (13)_____ (learn) how to search for information on the Internet. Next week, I (14)_____ (start) taking a course about web design.

Working with Tenses

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate tense. Look at the time expressions for clues.



1. Juan _____(study) English for many years.
2. His sister _____(finish) her English classes last semester.
3. Right now, we _____(work) on a very interesting project.
4. Before the teacher came to class, the students _____(complete) their assignments.



5. Sandie and George

_____ (continue) their studies for one more year.

6. By the time the teacher comes to class, the students _____ (complete) their assignments.

7. Iva _____ (meet) a young man at the supermarket last Saturday.

8. While James and his wife

_____ (drive) home, they saw a parade.



9. Tomorrow, Lisa's brother

_____ (start) his new job.

10. My students always (enjoy) _____ talking in English in class.

11. Since their family _____ (arrive) to this country, they

_____ (be) very happy.

12. When José got home, his parents

_____ (go) to sleep an hour before.



13. Andy and the boys

_____ (enjoy)
the World Cup now that it is on.

14. My car

_____ (break) down
three days ago.

15. I'm sorry. I cannot walk
anymore. I _____ (walk)
for an hour.





Practicing with Verb Tenses

Answer the following questions.

1. Where do you live?

2. What tense is this?

3. What did you do yesterday?
4. What tense is this?



5. What have you done since you began school here?

6. What tense is this?





- 7. What will you do when you finish your English classes?**
- 8. What tense is this?**



- 9. What were you doing last night
at around 7 o'clock?**
- 10. What tense is this?**



11. What are you doing now?
12. What tense is this?



- 13. What had you done before you started
classes in college?**
- 14. What tense is this?**



**15. How long have you been
studying English?
16. What tense is this?**

17. What had you been doing before
you woke up this morning?
18. What tense is this?





**19. What will you have accomplished
by the time you finish studying
English?**

20. What tense is this?



Tenses and Time Expressions:

Read the sentences and fill in the blanks, using the correct tense of the verb in parentheses.

1. When Mary left the restaurant, she _____
(*take, not*) her purse with her. She
_____ (*leave*) it on her chair.
2. By the time Mary realized that her purse was still in the
restaurant hanging on the chair she
_____ (*sit*) in, she _____
(*drive*) twenty miles.
3. She noticed her purse wasn't beside her on the front seat
when she _____ (*search*) for her cell
phone to make a call.

4. Mary stopped her car _____ (*look*)
under the front seat and in the
back seat _____ (*try*) to locate her purse.
When she _____
(*find, not*) it, she turned around and _____
(*drive*) back to the restaurant.

5. When she arrived back at the restaurant, the
police _____ (*talk*) to two teenagers. One of the
police officers had her purse in his hand.





6. After speaking to the police, Mary _____ (*realize*) that the kids _____ (*call*) the police to turn in her purse. She _____ (*feel*) happy. These kids deserved a reward for their honesty!

7. The two kids _____ (*sit*) at Mary's table after she _____ (*leave*). The waitress apparently never _____ (*see*) the purse when she cleaned the table.



Present Tense

Directions: Find the mistakes with the underlined words and correct them.

NOT EVERY SENTENCE HAS A MISTAKE. If the sentence is correct, write, "correct".

1. Why you don't listen to me?
2. How you spell "beautiful"?
3. Is very hot and humid today.
4. My family and I live in Miami.
5. The college is being in Fort Lauderdale
6. She's my favorite teacher.
7. I don't have my textbook yet.
8. She come from Nicaragua.
9. Marta does go to the movies every Saturday.
10. How much your new car costs?



**FILL IN THE BLANKS WITH PRESENT, PRESENT PROGRESSIVE,
PAST, OR PAST PROGRESSIVE.**

1.- A: (hear, you)_____ the thunder last night?

B: No, I (hear, not)___ anything all night. I (be)___ asleep.

2.- A: I (want)_____ to go to the mall this afternoon and
(look)_____ for a new dress. (want, you)_____ to go with me?

B: I can't. I (have)_____ another appointment.

Besides, I (buy)_____ a new dress last week.

3.- The children (feed)___ bread to the birds in the park yesterday.

4.- John (forget)___ to bring his textbook to school almost every
day.

5.- I always (catch)_____ a cold in the winter. Last
winter, I (catch)_____ two colds in one month!

6.- Marta (eat)___ dinner last night when Joe (get)___ home.

7.- Yesterday, it (begin)___ to rain while I (walk)_____ to school.

8.- Joe and I usually (go)_____ to the movies on Saturday night,
but Maria (stay)_____ home and watches television.

