

Tense review 1

Lesson code: L49J-D16B-88SC-C

INTERMEDIATE+

1 Present simple vs. present continuous

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

- I _____ (often/play) tennis on Sundays.
- What _____ (you/do) right now?
- Be quiet! I _____ (try) to watch the match.
- Joe _____ (get up) at 7am every day.
- Kate _____ (not/usually/use) public transport, but today she _____ (take) the bus.
- Ben _____ (live) in the city, but this week he _____ (stay) in the countryside with his uncle.
- Kyle is a chef — he _____ (cook) exotic meals for a well-known restaurant. Right now, he _____ (cook) a Thai soup.
- Omeir _____ (not/work) on Sundays. He _____ (play) golf instead.

2 States vs. actions

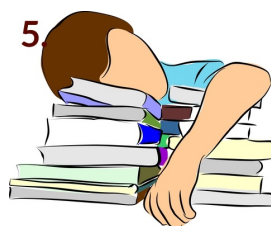
Cross out the wrong answers to complete the following sentences.

- I think/'m thinking the film was really good.
- Joanne is/is being very unhelpful at the moment. She isn't usually like this.
- How do you like/are you liking our new home?
- I don't see/'m not seeing how we can win this game. We're just not good enough.
- Greg sees/is seeing a new girl. Have you met her?
- You look distracted. What do you think/are you thinking about?
- Pedro and Tina are/are being very creative people.
- Jeremy doesn't realise/isn't realising that we are already very late.



3 Past simple vs. past continuous

Look at the pictures below and make sentences with the past simple/continuous like in the example.



start
fly

walk
receive

care
ring

crash
run

drive
study

fall asleep
work

1. They were walking along the street when it started to rain.
2. The phone _____ while she _____ for her child.
3. While she _____, she _____ a phone call.
4. While he _____, he _____ into a tree.
5. He _____ while he _____.
6. A bird _____ over her head while she _____ along the beach.

4 Changes from past to present

The sentences below describe changes from 20 years ago to today. Complete them with the verbs in the present perfect (positive or negative form).

1. The world _____ (*become*) safer.
2. Global temperatures _____ (*rise*).
3. Technology _____ (*make*) our lives better.
4. The gap between rich and poor people _____ (*grow*).
5. Music _____ (*improve*).
6. The air _____ (*become*) much cleaner.
7. The number of people who own a computer _____ (*decrease*).
8. Many people _____ (*stop*) writing letters.



5 Present perfect v. Past simple

Put the verbs in brackets in the correct form, present perfect or past simple.

1. She _____ (meet) her husband in 2005.
2. The restaurant we _____ (go) to yesterday evening was fantastic.
3. It _____ (not/snow) so far this winter.
4. The team's performance _____ (improve) a lot since the beginning of the year.
5. Bill _____ (not/have) a day off last week.
6. I _____ (try) sushi about a year ago, but I _____ (forget) what it tastes like.
7. I _____ (never/go) to Japan, but I _____ (go) to China last year on a business trip.
8. I _____ (prepare) a sandwich for you earlier. _____ (you/eat) it yet?
9. Susan _____ (write) her first book 12 years ago. Since then, she _____ (write) five novels.

6 Present perfect simple vs. continuous

Cross out the wrong answers to complete the following sentences.

1. Tariq has visited/has been visiting Japan five times.
2. Joanne looks very tired. Has she worked/Has she been working late again?
3. Xavier hasn't eaten/hasn't been eating all day. He must be hungry.
4. They speak French very well. They 've lived/'ve been living in France for almost ten years.
5. Mr Sanders is a journalist. He has interviewed/has been interviewing a lot of interesting people.
6. You smell of cigarettes. Have you smoked/Have you been smoking ?
7. I haven't watched/haven't been watching any interesting TV shows this year.
8. Have you seen/Have you been seeing Floyd recently? He looks completely different.

7 Practice

Answer the questions below with full sentences.

1. What do you do on a typical day?
2. What are you doing right now?
3. What were you doing yesterday at 1pm?
4. How did you spend last weekend?
5. What have you done since last week?
6. How long have you been living in your current home?



1 Present simple vs. present continuous

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. often play | 2. are you doing | 3. 'm trying | 4. gets up |
| 5. doesn't usually use; is taking | 6. lives; is staying | 7. cooks; is cooking | 8. doesn't work; plays |

2 States vs. actions

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. think | 2. is being | 3. do you like | 4. don't see |
| 5. is seeing | 6. are you thinking | 7. are | 8. doesn't realise |

3 Past simple vs. past continuous

Possible answers:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2. rang; was caring | 3. was working; received | 4. was driving; crashed |
| 5. fell asleep; was studying | 6. flew; was running | |

4 Changes from past to present

Possible answers:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. hasn't become | 2. have risen |
| 3. has made | 4. has grown |
| 5. hasn't improve | 6. has become |
| 7. hasn't decreased | 8. have stopped |

5 Present perfect v. Past simple

Note: the past participle of 'go' is 'been' or 'gone'. If the meaning is 'visit', we use 'been', e.g. 'I've been to Tokyo five times this year.' If the meaning is 'leave', we use 'gone', e.g. 'Mark is not here now. He has gone home.'

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. met | 2. went | 3. hasn't snowed |
| 4. has improved | 5. didn't have | 6. tried; 've forgotten |
| 7. 've never been; went | 8. prepared; have you eaten | 9. wrote; 's written |

6 Present perfect simple vs. continuous

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. has visited | 2. Has she been working |
| 3. hasn't eaten | 4. 've been living |
| 5. has interviewed | 6. Have you been smoking |
| 7. haven't watched | 8. Have you seen |

