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**ПРАКТИЧЕСКАЯ ГРАММАТИКА  
АНГЛИЙСКОГО ЯЗЫКА**

**ПРАКТИЧЕСКОЕ ПОСОБИЕ по теме «Времена английского  
глагола» для студентов  
специальности 1-02 03 06 01 «Английский язык»  
В 2 частях  
Часть 1**

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Целью практического пособия является оказание помощи студентам в овладении грамматическими навыками устной речи. Лексическое наполнение всех упражнений представляет широкий спектр образцов современной английской разговорной речи.

Практическое пособие по теме «Времена английского глагола» адресовано студентам специальности 1 - 02 03 06 01 «Английский язык» как для использования на занятиях, так и для самостоятельной работы.

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## **Введение**

Целью подготовки практического пособия является оказание помощи студентам в овладении грамматическими навыками устной речи.

Упражнения располагаются по мере изучения грамматического материала и представляют собой тренировочные, языковые, условно-речевые и речевые упражнения, целью которых является многократная тренировка изучаемого грамматического явления. В конце пособия даются обзорные, повторительные упражнения, которые могут использоваться в качестве тестовых заданий для проверки сформированности навыка владения данным грамматическим явлением. В целях большей наглядности приводятся таблицы.

Лексическое наполнение всех упражнений представляет широкий спектр образцов современной английской разговорной речи.

При составлении различных видов упражнений были использованы, новые идеи и подходы, предложенные в учебных пособиях зарубежных авторов.

Практическое пособие по теме «Времена английского глагола» адресовано студентам специальности 1 - 02 03 06 01 «Английский язык» как для использования на занятиях, так и для самостоятельной работы.

## Unit 1 The Present Indefinite (Simple) Tense

### Formation

In the affirmative the simple present has the same form as the infinitive but adds an **-s** for **the third person singular**.

**Table 1**

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
<i>I work</i>	<i>I do not work</i>	<i>do I work?</i>
<i>you work</i>	<i>you do not work</i>	<i>do you work?</i>
<i>he/she/it works</i>	<i>he/she/it does not work</i>	<i>does he/she/it work?</i>
<i>we work</i>	<i>we do not work</i>	<i>do we work?</i>
<i>you work</i>	<i>you do not work</i>	<i>do you work?</i>
<i>they work</i>	<i>they do not work</i>	<i>do they work?</i>

Contractions: the verb **do** is normally contracted in the negative and negative interrogative: *I don't work, he doesn't work, don't I work? doesn't he work?*

### Spelling rules

**1** Verbs ending in **ss, sh, ch, x, tch, z** and **o** add **es**, instead of **s** alone, to form the third person singular:

*I miss, he misses*                      *I catch, he catches*

*I push, he pushes*                      *I do, he does*

*I watch, he watches*                      *I go, he goes*

**2** When **y** follows a consonant we change the **y** into **i** and add **es**:

*I carry, he carries*    *I copy, he copies*    *I cry, he cries*

But verbs ending in **y** following a vowel obey the usual rule:

*I obey, he obeys*    *I say, he says*

### Main uses

**1 Habitual or regular actions.** A frequency adverb or adverbial phrases are usually used: *always, never, every day, every six months, sometimes, often, ever, hardly ever, from time to time, normally, occasionally, regularly, rarely, seldom, usually, twice a week, at weekends, on Mondays*, etc.

*I get up at 7.*

*John smokes a lot.*

*She visits her parents every day.*

*How often do you go to the dentist? - I go every six months.*

*Do you ever eat meat? – No, I never eat meat.*

## **2 Permanent situations.**

*My dad works in Saudi Arabia.*

*My sister wears glasses.*

*He lives in the French Alps near the Swiss border.*

## **3 General truths.** Statements that are always true. Laws of nature.

*Water boils at 100 degrees centigrade.*

*Love makes the world go round.*

*The bus takes longer than the train.*

*Summer follows spring.*

*Gases expand when heated.*

## **4 Future reference.** This use is often related to **timetables** and **programmes** or to **events in the calendar**.

*The next train leaves at two fifteen in the morning.*

*It's Tuesday tomorrow.*

*The exhibition opens on January 1st and closes on January 31<sup>st</sup>.*

*The concert begins at 7.30 and ends at 9.30.*

We use the Present Simple especially when we are talking about journey, travelling plans and itinerary.

*We leave London at 10.00 next Tuesday and arrive in Paris at 13.00. We spend two hours in Paris and leave again at 15.00. We arrive in Rome at 19.30, spend four hours in Rome. (itinerary).*

## **5 Observations and declarations** in the course of conversation.

Mostly with the verbs describing opinion and feelings:

***hope/assume/suppose/promise/demand/ assure/ predict/ propose/ warn/ swear/ bet/ suggest/ admit/ say/ claim/agree***

*I promise everything will be all right.*

*I bet you were nervous just before your driving test.*

*It says here that the police expect more trouble in the city.*

*I declare this exhibition open.*

*We live in difficult times - I agree.*

It is used, chiefly with the verb **say**, when we are asking about or quoting from books, notices or very recently received letters:

*What does that notice say? - It says, 'No parking'.*

*What does the book say? - It says, 'Cook very slowly.'*  
*I see you 've got a letter from Ann. What does she say? - She says she is coming to London next week.*

### **6 Summaries of events. Plots of stories, films, etc.**

*At last the boy meets his friends, they talk for some time and he agrees to go with them.*

In narratives to express past actions more vividly.

*It was so unexpected. You see, I came home late last night, turned on the light – and whom do you think I see? Jack, old Jack, sleeping in the chair. I give a cry, rush to him and shake him by the shoulder.*

### **7 The structures: HERE COMES... , THERE GOES...**

*There goes our bus.*

*Here come the students of our group.*

### **8 Giving or asking for instructions.**

*What do we do next? What happens next?*

*Where do we go now? How do I get to the station?*

### **9 Demonstrations and commentaries.**

*First I take a bowl and break two eggs into it.*

*Smith passes to David – nice ball – and David shoots.*

*Now watch me closely: I take a match, light it, put it into the glass and ...oh, nothing happens.*

**10 Formal correspondence.** Some fixed phrases that are used in letter-writing can be expressed either in the Present Simple (formal) or the Present Continuous (less formal).

*We write to tell you ....* (formal)

*We are writing to tell you ....* (less formal)

### **11 Newspaper headlines, the outlines of novels, plays, films, etc.**

*Dog Saves Its Master.*

*Terrorists attack Manhattan.*

**12 To denote actions and states happening at the moment of speaking** (used with **stative verbs**, which can't be used in the continuous aspect). See Unit 3.

*Who does this car belong to?*

*I do not see what you are doing.  
Now I hear you perfectly well.*

**13** The Present Simple is used with a perfect or past meaning in introductory expressions like ***I hear/ I see/ I gather/ I understand***  
*I hear that you are leaving next week.  
I understand you are looking for a job.*  
The Present Simple is used in the past meaning in such sentences:  
*It is a long time since ....  
It is ten years since I came here.*

**14** The Present Simple is used after such expressions as: ***make sure/ take care/see to it***  
*I'll see to it that everybody leaves after classes.*

**15** In adverbial clauses of time and condition after conjunctions ***when, till, until, as soon as, as long as, before, after, while, if, unless, in case, on condition that, provided, etc.***  
*Ring me up when she comes.  
Do it as soon as you are through with your duties.*

## **Practice**

**Ex. 1 Explain the use of the Present Indefinite in the following sentences:**

1. I *sleep* here; My father *sleeps* in his study. 2. Your mouth is bleeding. *Does it hurt?* 3. Where *do we go* from here? 4. Please see that the children *don't get* nervous. 5. I *do* a lot of travelling, you *know*. 6. One *lives and learns*. 7. He *owns* a big car. 8. His men *act* silently as a rule. They *wear* dark glasses and they *call* after dark. 9. Changes *happen* very quickly here. 10. It is too late to go anywhere. What *do we do* then? 11. "Perhaps after breakfast I could ring up my family." "The telephone *doesn't work*." 12. Why *don't you go* back home? 13. They wish to make sure that he *does not alter* his plans. 14. I *brush* my teeth every night. 15. "I *give up*," she said. "You *win*". 16. It is a scene in which Mr Dante, in a white dinner-jacket, *arrives* at the ground floor by lift. The lift door *opens*, Dante *gets* out, *looks* at something on his left, *registers* alarm and *walks* away briskly. 17. I've got to get him to the station. His train *leaves* at eleven.

**Ex. 2 Complete the sentences by putting in the verbs. Use the**



**Present Simple. You have to decide if the verb is positive or negative:**

1. Claire is very sociable. She (know) lots of people. 2. We've got plenty of chairs, thanks. We (want) any more. 3. My friend is finding life in Paris a bit difficult. He (speak) French. 4. Most students live quite close to the college, so they (walk) there. 5. My sports kit is really muddy. This shirt (need) a good wash. 6. I've got four cats and two dogs. I (love) animals. 7. No breakfast for Mark, thanks. He (eat) breakfast. 8. What's the matter? You (look) very happy. 9. Don't try to ring the bell. It (work). 10. I hate telephone answering machines. I just (like) talking to them. 11. Matthew is good at badminton. He (win) every game. 12. We always travel by bus. We (own) a car.

**Ex. 3 Complete the conversation. Put in the Present Simple forms:**

Rita: ... (you / like) football, Tom?

Tom: ... (I / love) it. I'm a United fan. ... (I / go) to all their games.

Nick usually ... (come) with me. And ... (we / travel) to away games, too.

Why ... (you / not / come) to a match some time?

Rita: I'm afraid football ... (not / make) sense to me — men running after

a ball. Why ... (you / take) it so seriously?

Tom: It's a wonderful game. ... (I / love) it. United are my whole life.

Rita: How much ... (it / cost) to buy the tickets and pay for the travel?

Tom: A lot. ... (I / not / know) exactly how much. But ... (that / not / matter) to me. ... (I / not / want) to do anything else. ... (that / annoy) you?

Rita: No, ... (it / not / annoy) me. I just ... (find) it a bit sad.

**Unit 2 The Present Continuous (Progressive) Tense**

**Formation**

The present continuous tense is formed with the present tense of the auxiliary verb *be* + the present participle (the infinitive + ing).

**Table 2**

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
<i>I am working</i>	<i>I am not working</i>	<i>am I working?</i>
<i>you are working</i>	<i>you are not working</i>	<i>are you working?</i>
<i>he/she/it is working</i>	<i>he/she/it is not working</i>	<i>is he/she/it working?</i>
<i>we are working</i>	<i>we are not working</i>	<i>are we working?</i>
<i>you are working</i>	<i>you are not working</i>	<i>are you working?</i>
<i>they are working</i>	<i>they are not working</i>	<i>are they working?</i>

## Spelling rules

1 We can add -ing to most verbs without changing the spelling of their base forms:

*beat/beating, carry/carrying, catch/catching, enjoy/enjoying, hurry/hurrying*

2 If a verb ends in -e, omit the -e and add -ing.

*come/coming, have/having, make/making, ride/riding, use/using*

The exceptions are: *to age/ageing, singe/singeing*

But! This rule does not apply to verbs ending in double e:

*agree/agreeing, see/seeing*

3 A verb that is spelt with a single vowel followed by a single consonant doubles its final consonant:

*hit/hitting, let/letting, put/putting, run/running, sit/sitting*

4 With two-syllable verbs, the final consonant is normally doubled when the last syllable is stressed:

*for'get/forgetting, pre'fer/preferring, up'set/upsetting*

Compare: *'benefit/benefiting, 'differ/differing, 'profit/profitting*

Note!

*'label/labelling, 'quarrel/quarrelling, 'signal/signalling, 'travel/travelling* (BrE) are exceptions to this rule.

Compare:

*labeling, quarreling, signaling, traveling* (AmE)

5 -ic at the end of a verb changes to -ick when we add -ing:

*panic/panicking, picnic/picnicking, traffic/trafficking*

6 A verb having -ie at the end, changes -ie to -y and adds -ing:

*lie/lying, die/dying, tie/tying*

7 A verb having -p at the end doubles it, but only when the ending has the construction **consonant+vowel+consonant**.

*Worship/worshipping*

## Main uses

1 We use the Present Continuous to describe actions or events which are in progress at the moment of speaking. To emphasize this, we often use adverbials like **now, at the moment, just, at present, currently, still**.

*Someone's knocking at the door. Can you answer it?*

*What are you doing? - I'm just tying up my shoe-laces.*

*He's working at the moment, so he can't come to the telephone.*

*He's still talking to his girlfriend on the phone.*

## 2 Temporary situations

1) The Present Continuous can be used to describe actions and situations which may not have been happening long, or which are thought of as being in progress for a **limited period**. The following indicators are generally used: *these days, this week, this month, this year*.

*What's your daughter doing these days?*

*- She's studying English at Durham University.*

2) Such situations may not be happening at the moment of speaking:  
*Don't take that ladder away. Your father's using it.* (i.e. but perhaps not at the moment).

3) Temporary events may be in progress at the moment of speaking:  
*The river is flowing very fast after last night's rain.*

4) Temporary actions and situations may be given **as a contrast** to usual actions:

*I usually drive to work, but this week I am taking a bus as my car is in repair.*

**3** We also use the Present Continuous to describe developing or changing situations. The verbs *to change, to get, to grow, to improve, to become, to rise, to fall, to increase and to decrease* are usually used. Very often adjectives in comparative degree are used in such sentences.  
*The number of cars on the road is increasing. The earth is slowly getting warmer.*

*People are becoming less tolerant of smoking these days.*

**4** When we are talking about **repeated temporary actions in the present tense**, we use the Present Continuous for an action that continues to happen before and after another action that interrupts it. We use the Present Simple for the other action.

*The phone always rings when I'm having a bath.*

*Friends always talk to me when I'm trying to study.*

*Whenever I come, he is arguing with his sister.*

## 5 Planned actions: future reference

We use the Present Continuous to refer to activities and events planned for the future.

*Bob and Bill are meeting tonight.* (implies that they've arranged it)

It is commonly associated with future arrival and departure and occurs with verbs like *arrive, come, go, leave, etc.* to describe travel arrangements. We generally need an adverbial unless the meaning is clear

from the context:

*We're spending next winter in Australia.*

*He's arriving tomorrow morning on the 13.27 train.*

The adverbial and the context prevent confusion with the present continuous to describe an action which is in progress at the time of speaking:

*Look! The train's leaving* (i.e. it's actually moving).

With the verbs **do**, **have** and verbs indicating position such as **stay**, **remain**, **etc.** Present Continuous can be used more widely. It can express a decision or plan without any definite arrangement.

**6** We often use Present Continuous with verbs of movement to talk about actions which are just starting:

*Get your coat on. I am taking you down to the doctor.*

**7** We use Present Continuous to describe a **continual process**:

*The Earth is always moving.*

*The sun is ever shining.*

**8** Present Continuous is used with the adverbs **always**, **constantly**, **continually**, **all the time** and **forever** to show **irritation**, **annoyance**, **disapproval**.

*He is always talking too much.* (His talking too much irritates the speaker. He could have talked less.)

*Our burglar alarm is forever going off for no reason.*

Sometimes it's possible to use Present Continuous to express unexpected, unplanned actions:

*I am always meeting Mrs. Gale in the supermarket.*

**9** Present Continuous is used to ask people politely about their plans:

*What are you doing next Saturday?*

**10** Present Continuous is used for "background" situations in present tense narrative:

*So, I am standing there minding my own business when the policeman walks up to me.*

## **Practice**

**Ex. 4 Explain the use of the Present Continuous in the following**

**sentences:**

1. Bill, stop that disgusting game *you're playing*. 2. They've moved to their London house. They *are buying* new furniture. 3. He paused and looked at her. "*You're shaking*. Are you all right?" 4. He *is always having* to check his emotions. 5. I *am meeting* Jason at his office on the 25th. 6. You know that cinema audiences *are declining* in the United States. 7. The rain *is just beginning*. 8. Sally put down the telephone. "It was Dan. *He's staying* at the club tonight. He's too tired to drive home." 9. You *are always drinking* tea when I come here for a snack. 10. I *miss* her very much, almost every minute of the day I *think* of her. 11. My father *is always saying* things that he shouldn't say in front of me. 12. "Don't go," he said. "I *feel* faint. The room *is spinning* around." 13. The aspirin *isn't working*. I'm in pain. 14. Albert *is doing* quite nicely in the used-car business. 15. By the way, *I'm having* some people over for dinner tonight. 16. *We're having* a boring gossip all about Peter's chances. 17. You *are looking* wealthy, prosperous and fine. 18. "I've heard the whole story, all the town *is talking* of it," he said.

**Ex. 5 Put the verbs in brackets into the Present Continuous tense:**

1. She (not work), she (swim) in the river. 2. He (teach) his boy to ride. 3. Why Ann (not wear) her new dress? 4. The airplane (fly) at 2,000 metres. 5. What Tom (do) now? He (clean) his shoes. 6. This fire (go) out. Somebody (bring) more coal? 7. It (rain)? - Yes, it (rain) very hard. You can't go out yet. 8. Why you (mend) that old shirt? 9. You (not tell) the truth. - How do you know that I (not tell) the truth? 10. Who (move) the furniture about upstairs? - It's Tom. He (paint) the front bedroom. 11. Mrs Jones (sweep) the steps outside her house. 12. What you (read) now? I (read) *Crime and Punishment*. 13. It is a lovely day. The sun (shine) and the birds (sing). 14. Someone (knock) at the door. Shall I answer it? - I (come) in a minute. I just (wash) my hands. 15. She always (ring) up and (ask) questions. 16. Why you (make) a cake? Someone (come) to tea? 17. Where is Tom? - He (lie) under the car. 18. Can I borrow your pen or you (use) it at the moment? 19. You (do) anything this evening? - No, I'm not. - Well, I (go) to the cinema. Would you like to come with me? 20. We (have) breakfast at 8.00 tomorrow as Tom (catch) an early train. 21. Ann usually does the shopping, but I (do) it today as she isn't well. 22. Why you (type) so fast? You (make) a lot of mistakes. 23. Mother (rest) now. She always rests after lunch. 24. They (dig) an enormous hole just outside my gate. - What they (do) that for? - I don't know. Perhaps they (look) for oil. 25. What (make) that terrible noise? - It's the pneumatic drill. They (repair)

the road. 26. The children are very quiet. Go and see what they (do). - They (cut) up some J5 notes. 27. What you (wait) for? - I (wait) for my change; the boy just (get) it. 28. I can't hear what you (say); the traffic (make) too much noise. 29. She always (lose) her glasses and (ask) me to look for them. 30. Mother: What you (look) at? Something (happen) in the street? 31. Child: Yes. The house opposite is on fire! Come and look. Mother: I can't. I (bath) the babies. Is the Fire Brigade here? 32. Child: Yes. Fire engines (rush) up and the firemen (jump) out and (unroll) their hoses. 33. Smoke (pour) from the windows! People (stop) to watch. A policeman (try) to move them on. 34. An old man (climb) out of a first floor window! A fireman (help) him! Two boys (slide) down a rope! 35. A woman (wave) from the attic and a fireman (go) up a ladder to help her! 36. Now he (come) down again! He (carry) a baby! The crowd (cheer).

**Ex. 6 Complete the conversation. Put in a present continuous form of the verb:**

Andrew: What ... (you / do)?

Rachel: ... (I / write) a letter to a friend. He's a disc jockey. Vicky and I ... (try) to organize a disco.

Andrew: That sounds a lot of work. How ... (you / find) time for your studies?

Rachel: Well, as I said, Vicky ... (help) me. ... (we / get) on all right. ... (we / not / spend) too much time on it. ... (it / not / take) me away from my studies, don't worry about that. Oh, sorry, ... (you / wait) for this computer?

Andrew: Yes, but there's no hurry.

Rachel: ... (I / correct) the last bit of the letter. I've nearly finished.

**Ex. 7 Put in the present continuous or simple of the verbs:**

Mark: ... (you / look) for someone?

Alan: Yes, ... (I / need) to speak to Neil. He isn't in his office.

Mark: ... (he / talk) to the boss at the moment. ... (I / think) ... (they / discuss) money.

Alan: Oh, right. And what about you? ... (you / look) for someone too?

Mark: Yes, Linda. ... (you / know) where she is?

Alan: Oh, she isn't here today. She only ... (work) four days a week. ... (she / not / work) on Fridays. She'll be here on Monday.

Mark: Thank you. ... (you / know) a lot about Linda.

Alan: Well, most days ... (I / give) her a lift, or ... (she / give) me one. ... (she / live) quite close to me. ... (it / save) petrol.

Mark: Yes, of course. Good idea. Yes, ... (I / agree). Well, ... (I / waste)

my time here then. I'll get back to my computer.

**Ex. 8 Complete the sentences. Put in the present continuous or simple of the verbs:**

1. (it / snow) outside. (it / come) down quite hard, look. 2. Normally (I / start) work at eight o'clock, but (I / start) at seven this week. We're very busy at the moment. 3. I haven't got a car at the moment, so (I / go) to work on the bus this week. Usually (I / drive) to work. 4. The sun (rise) in the east, remember. It's behind us so (we / travel) west. 5. I'm afraid I have no time to help just now (I / write) a report. But (I / promise) I'll give you some help later. 6. (I / want) a new car (I / save) up to buy one.

**Ex. 9 Complete the sentences. Use *always* and the present continuous or simple:**

Melanie: Tom talks too much, doesn't he?

Rita: Yes, and *he's always talking about football*.

Laura: You forget your keys every time.

Trevor: *I try to remember them, but I always forget.*

1. Claire: Sarah takes the train every day, doesn't she?

Mark: Yes, ..... the train.

2. Vicky: Rachel misses lectures much too often in my opinion.

Emma: I agree. .... lectures.

3. Mike: Every time I drive along here, I go the wrong way.

Harriet: But it's very simple, isn't it? Why ..... the wrong way?

4. David: Trevor and Laura argue much too often, I think.

Melanie: I know .....

### **Unit 3 The difference between the Present Simple and the Present Continuous**

**1** The Present Simple is preferred to the Present Continuous when the action itself attracts the attention of the speaker and the idea of progress is unimportant at the moment.

*You've always treated me badly and now you insult me.*

*You leave me no choice.*

*I repeat she has been rude again.*

**2** The Present Simple is preferred to the Present Continuous when the speaker doesn't concentrate on the progress of the action but rather on the

circumstances attending that action.

*You speak so slowly.* – The manner of the action

*Why do you look at me like that?* – The cause of the action

**3** The Present Simple is used instead of the Present Continuous to **denote actions and states happening at the moment of speaking with stative verbs.** **Stative (or state) verbs** refer to states. So they have no beginning and no end. They can't be used in the continuous aspect.

There are several groups of stative verbs:

1 verbs denoting physical perception: *to hear, to notice, to see, to sound, to smell, to taste*

2 verbs denoting emotions: *to adore, to care for, to detest, to dislike, to hate, to like, to love, to respect*

3 verbs denoting wish: *to desire, to want, to wish*

4 verbs denoting mental processes: *to admire* (= to be of high opinion), *to appreciate, to assume, to believe* (= to consider), *to consider* (= to regard), *to doubt, to expect* (= to suppose), *to feel* (= to consider), *to forget, to imagine, to know, to mind* (= to object), *to perceive, to presume, to realize, to recall, to recognize, to recollect, to regard, to remember, to suppose, to think* (= to consider), *to trust, to understand*

5 relational verbs: *to apply, to be, to belong, to concern, to consist, to contain, to depend, to deserve, to differ, to equal, to exist, to fit, to have, to hold* (= to contain), *to include, to involve, to lack, to matter, to measure, to need, to owe, to own, to possess, to remain, to require, to resemble, to result, to signify, to suffice, to weigh*

6 some other verbs: *to agree, to allow, to appear* (= to seem), *to astonish, to claim, to consent, to displease, to envy, to fail to do, to feel, to find, to forbid, to forgive, to intend, to interest, to keep doing, to look, to look like, to manage to do, to mean, to object, to please, to prefer, to prevent, to promise, to puzzle, to refuse, to remind, to satisfy, to seem, to succeed, to suit, to surprise, to tend, to value.*

Compare progressive and non-progressive uses of some of the verbs listed above

**Table 3**

	<i>state</i>	<i>action</i>
	<b>Indefinite</b>	<b>Continuous</b>
<b>1 be</b>	He <i>is</i> noisy.	He <i>is being</i> noisy. ( <i>behaves or</i>



	( <i>general characteristic</i> )	<i>pretends on purpose</i> )
2 <b>have</b>	We <b>have</b> a car. ( <i>possession</i> )	We <b>are having</b> dinner. ( <i>no meaning of possession</i> )
3 <b>feel</b>	I <b>feel</b> you're wrong. ( <i>consider, think</i> ) The cloth <b>feels</b> soft. ( <i>link verb</i> )	The doctor <b>is feeling</b> my pulse. ( <i>touch</i> ) I <b>was feeling for</b> the keyhole in the dark. ( <i>try to find smth by touching</i> )
	<b>BUT!</b> I <b>feel</b> better. Or I <b>am feeling</b> better. ( <i>both are possible</i> )	
4 <b>depend</b>	It <b>depends</b> on the weather. ( <i>to be dependent on smth</i> )	I <b>am depending</b> on you. ( <i>rely</i> )
5 <b>see</b>	I <b>see</b> what you mean. ( <i>understand</i> ) I <b>see</b> a bird in that tree. ( <i>sense perception</i> )	I <b>am seeing</b> him tomorrow. ( <i>meet by appointment</i> ) We <b>are seeing about</b> a work permit. ( <i>try to arrange</i> ) I <b>am seeing</b> them <b>to</b> the bus. ( <i>escort</i> ) She <b>is seeing</b> him <b>off</b> .
	6 <b>hear</b>	I'm listening but I <b>don't hear</b> anything. ( <i>sense perception</i> )
6 <b>hear</b>	I'm listening but I <b>don't hear</b> anything. ( <i>sense perception</i> )	The court <b>is hearing</b> evidence today. I <b>am hearing</b> all <b>about</b> it these days. ( <i>receive news</i> ) I <b>am hearing from</b> him less and less. ( <i>receive letters, phone calls</i> )
7 <b>smell</b>	The meat <b>smells</b> awful.	Why <b>are you smelling</b> the meat?
8 <b>sound</b>	The music <b>sounds</b> loud.	The driver <b>is sounding</b> the horn.
9 <b>taste</b>	The tea <b>tastes</b> bitter.	Why <b>are you tasting</b> the cake?
10 <b>weigh</b>	The bag <b>weighs</b> five kilos.	We <b>are weighing</b> the bag.
11 <b>measure</b>	The street <b>measures</b> 12 km.	We <b>are measuring</b> the street.
12 <b>look</b>	This place <b>looks</b> strange.	I <b>am looking for</b> my key. Why <b>are you looking at</b> me? Who <b>is looking after</b> him? Etc.
	<b>BUT!</b> You <b>look</b> nice. Or You <b>are looking</b> nice.	
13 <b>think</b>	I <b>think</b> he is right. ( <i>opinion</i> )	I <b>am thinking</b> about the holidays. ( <i>the process of thinking</i> )

14 <b>consider</b>	We <i>consider</i> him our friend. ( <i>believe</i> )	We <i>are considering</i> your application. ( <i>study</i> )
15 <b>fit</b>	The coat <i>fits</i> . ( <i>to be the right size</i> )	I <i>am fitting</i> the lock to the window.
16 <b>come</b>	I <i>come from</i> Sweden. ( <i>live or was born</i> )	I <i>am coming from</i> Sweden. ( <i>travel</i> )
17 <b>appear</b>	She <i>appears</i> very nervous. ( <i>seem</i> )	She <i>is appearing</i> in the film next month. ( <i>come before the public</i> )
18 <b>hold</b>	How many people <i>does this room hold</i> ? ( <i>contain</i> )	I <i>am holding</i> my arm straight.
19 <b>exist</b>	These birds <i>don't exist</i> anymore. ( <i>be</i> )	People <i>are existing</i> here only on what they can find. ( <i>keep themselves alive</i> )
20 <b>compare</b>	My roses <i>don't compare</i> with yours. ( <i>be as good as</i> )	The author <i>is comparing</i> the information.
21 <b>mind</b>	<i>Does anyone mind</i> opening the door? ( <i>object</i> )	Everyone <i>is minding</i> their own business. ( <i>look after</i> )
22 <b>expect</b>	I <i>expect</i> that he will come. ( <i>think</i> )	I <i>am expecting</i> my friend. ( <i>wait</i> )

## Practice

**Ex. 10 Explain why the Present Continuous is not used in the following sentences despite the fact that the actions in them take place at the moment of speaking:**

1. The phone's ringing. Who's it for, I *wonder*? 2. You *talk* as if your son were a little boy. 3. Your scheme *sounds* full of holes to me. 4. There was a burst of laughter and music. Rose said wistfully: "They *have* a good time, don't they?" 5. The whole thing must be done right away. That *leaves* us only one alternative. 6. What's this? Sam, *do you hear* that? 7. What's the matter now? Why *do you talk* to me like that? 8. I'm sorry. I *apologize*. 9. "I *feel* a bit shaken." "You *surprise* me. I've never seen you like that." 10. "*Do you think* there may be some mistake here?" "Why *do you ask* me?" 11. In a minute or two he began to sigh. "He *sighs* like a turtle," Meg

thought. 12. "She has gone away." "Oh, that *tells* me everything."

**Ex. 11 Complete the conversation. Choose the correct form of the verb:**

Emma: Hi, Matthew. What do you look/are you looking at?

Matthew: Oh, hi. These are photos of me when I was a child.

Emma: Oh, look at this one. I think/I'm thinking you look lovely, Matthew.

Matthew: I have/I'm having some more photos here.

Emma: Look at this. Why such a big coat?

Matthew: It was my brother's. That's why it didn't fit/it wasn't fitting properly.

Emma: Oh, I see/I'm seeing. And you have/you're having your tea here. And in this one you think/you're thinking about something very serious.

Matthew: This is a photo of the village I come/I'm coming from.

Emma: Oh, that's nice.

Matthew: And I caught this fish, look. It weighed/It was weighing about half a kilo.

Emma: What a nice little boy! And what a sentimental old thing you are now!

**Ex. 12 Put in the correct form of *be*:**

1. The children ... very polite today. They don't usually behave so well.

2. I'm afraid Melanie can't come because she ... ill.

3. Of course you can understand it. You ... stupid, that's all.

4. We ... interested in doing a course here.

5. Vicky ... very lazy at the moment. She's done no work at all today.

**Ex. 13 Use the Present Indefinite or the Present Continuous:**

1. He has suffered a great deal of pain. You (not to think) he (to behave) very well, though? 2. "I (to live) up there," she said, indicating the gates. 3. I never (to change) my shoes even when I (to get) my feet wet. 4. "By the way," I asked Arthur, "what Bill (to do) now?" 5. The guard stared at him. "You (to have) a pass?" 6. "Mr Brown (to play) cards?" he asked. 7. "Luis (to keep) something secret." "He (not to tell) you everything?" 8. They will have to stay with us when they (to arrive) here. 9. "And what has become of Mr Jones?" the man asked. "He (to do) well." 10. "You must forgive me," Mr Smith said, "but I (not to touch) alcohol." 11. It's no use mumbling at me out of the side of your mouth, and imagining that you (to

speak) French. 12. "Dan," she said, turning to her husband with her hand over the mouthpiece, "why your brother (to call) so early?" 13. I (to believe) she (to feel) foolish this morning. 14. If there is one thing I (not to like) on a voyage it is the unexpected. Naturally I (not to talk) of the sea. The sea (to present) no problem. 15. He will give me a welcome whenever I (to come) here. 16. A very old woman was staring at them intently. "We (to do) something to attract attention?" Grace asked. 17. At the further end of the village (to stand) the medieval church. 18. "I shall go mad if this (to go) on much longer," said Rex. 19. "Where's Mrs Hardy?" "Downstairs, Sir. She (to greet) the guests." 20. May I put my car away in your garage in case anyone (to come)! 21. He gave me a smile as much as to say: "I only (to joke)." 22. Mr Smith and I never (to travel) anywhere without a bottle of aspirin. 23. The wheel of her bicycle was bent out of shape. "What I (to do) now?" she asked. 24. She always (to try) to show off to her husband that she can do without him. 25. The doctor (not to see) the patients today. He has been called away. 26. "If you (to feel) so strongly," she said, "why you (not to do) something about it?"

**Ex. 14 Put the verbs in brackets into the Simple Present or the Present Continuous tense:**

1. Cuckoos (not build) nests. They (use) the nests of other birds. 2. You can't see Tom now: he (have) a bath. 3. He usually (drink) coffee but today he (drink) tea. 4. What she (do) in the evenings? - She usually (play) cards or (watch) TV. 5. I won't go out now as it (rain) and I (not have) an umbrella. 6. The last train (leave) the station at 11.30. 7. He usually (speak) so quickly that I (not understand) him. 8. Ann (make) a dress for herself at the moment. She (make) all her own clothes. 9. Hardly anyone (wear) a hat nowadays. 10. I'm afraid I've broken one of your coffee cups. — Don't worry. I (not like) that set anyway. 11. I (wear) my sunglasses today because the sun is very strong. 12. Tom can't have the newspaper now because his aunt (read) it. 13. I'm busy at the moment. I (redecorate) the sitting room. 14. The kettle (boil) now. Shall I make the tea? 15. You (enjoy) yourself or would you like to leave now? - I (enjoy) myself very much. I (want) to stay to the end. 16. How you (get) to work as a rule? - I usually (go) by bus but tomorrow I (go) in Tom's car. 17. Why you (put) on your coat? - I (go) for a walk. You (come) with me? - Yes, I'd love to come. You (mind) if I bring my dog? 18. How much you (owe) him? - I (owe) him £5. - You (intend) to pay him? 19. You (belong) to your local library? - Yes, I do. - You (read) a lot? - Yes, quite a lot. - How often you (change) your books? - I (change) one every day. 20. Mary usually (learn)

languages very quickly but she (not seem) able to learn modern Greek. 21. I always (buy) lottery tickets but I never (win) anything. 22. You (like) this necklace? I (give) it to my daughter for her birthday tomorrow. 23. I won't tell you my secret unless you (promise) not to tell anyone. - I (promise). 24. You always (write) with your left hand? 25. You (love) him?- No, I (like) him very much but I (not love) him. 26. You (dream) at night? - Yes, I always (dream) and if I (eat) too much supper I (have) nightmares. 27. The milk (smell) sour. You (keep) milk a long time? 28. These workmen are never satisfied; they always (complain). 29. We (use) this room today because the window in the other room is broken. 30. He always (say) that he will mend the window but he never (do) it. 31. You (know) why an apple (fall) down and not up? 32. You (write) to him tonight? - Yes, I always (write) to him on his birthday. You (want) to send any message? 33. Tom and Mr Pitt (have) a long conversation. I (wonder) what they (talk) about. 34. You (believe) all that the newspapers say? - No, I (not believe) any of it. - Then why you (read) newspapers? 35. This car (make) a very strange noise. You (think) it is all right? - Oh, that noise (not matter). It always (make) a noise like that. 36. The fire (smoke) horribly. I can't see across the room. - I (expect) that birds (build) a nest in the chimney. - Why you (not put) wire across the tops of your chimneys? - Tom (do) that sometimes but it (not seem) to make any difference.

**Ex. 15 Make up situations to justify the use of the Present Indefinite and the Present Continuous in the following pairs of sentences:**

1. You'd better take your coat. It's raining out there.
1. You'd better take your coat. It rains out there.
2. They dance every style.
2. They are dancing every style.
3. "I know I'm boring you, but don't go," he said.
3. "I know I bore you, but don't go," he said.
4. I think they are both silly.
4. I think they are both being silly.
5. "His hands shake," said my aunt.
5. "His hands are shaking," said my aunt.
6. Who is sleeping in this room?
6. Who sleeps in this room?
7. He plays tennis.
7. He is playing tennis.
8. You're putting the umbrella in the wrong place.

8. You put the umbrella in the wrong place.
9. I don't eat fish.
9. I'm not eating fish.

**Ex. 16 Translate the following sentences into English concentrating on the use of the Present Indefinite and the Present Continuous:**

1. Где Тед? — В саду. — Что он там делает? 2. Брат никогда не простит мне, если я позволю тебе уйти. 3. Я не имею ни малейшего представления, о чем вы говорите. 4. Во всех номерах отеля есть ванна. 5. Он слышал, как она говорила по телефону: «Нет, у меня все в порядке. Я проснулась и завтракаю». 6. Мне, возможно, следует предупредить вас. Мы обучаем прямым методом. 7. Мы говорим только на эсперанто. 8. Значит ли это, что я старею? 9. «А что люди говорят обо мне здесь?» — спросила она. 10. Но они ничего еще не сделали. Как вы думаете, чего они ждут? 11. Эти люди говорят на языке, которого никто не знает. 12. Их фирма работает над новым автомобилем. Это большая новость. 13. Ты знаешь, как он любит автомобили. 14. Кстати, что здесь происходит? 15. Всякий раз, когда вам встретится слово, которое вы не знаете, посмотрите его в словаре. 16. «Я не сплю в доме», — сказал он. 17. Давай, я налью тебе воды. У тебя все еще дрожат руки. 18. Он сказал: «Мы никогда не доберемся до Лондона, если ты будешь вести машину так неосторожно». 19. «Удивительно, — сказал я, — как легко он заводит друзей». 20. «А что делает мать Сэнди в Японии?» 21. Ты помнишь Джеймса? Он теперь работает на новых издателей, и дела у него идут неплохо. 22. Я очень занят новой школой, которую мы строим. 23. Сэм, беги и поиграй в парке. Твой отец не очень хорошо себя чувствует. 24. Я не знаю, почему я плачу.

**Ex. 17 Compare and choose the proper form:**

1. She speaks/is speaking five languages.
2. Look at that man. He wears/is wearing such a funny hat.
3. Don't take that book back to the library. I am reading/ read it.
4. They have/are having two daughters and two sons.
5. Do you understand/are you understanding Spanish?
6. We think/are thinking opera is boring.
7. Be quiet! I am watching/watch my favorite program.
8. We don't enjoy/aren't enjoying this party at all. The music is too loud. But we are enjoying/enjoy going to big parties.
9. Alec and Mary are Scottish. They come/are coming from Glasgow.

They'll be here very soon. They come/are coming by car.

10. Lisa can't answer the phone. She has/is having a bath.

11. Every hour the Planet Earth travels/is travelling 66,620 miles around the Sun.

12. Where is Jane? She listens/is listening to a French son» but she doesn't understand what it is meaning/means.

13. See you in the morning. I leave/I'm leaving now.

14. I can't stand horror films. I think/am thinking they are really silly.

15. Excuse me, does this bus stop/is this bus stopping outside the Post Office?

16. What do you do/are you doing? - I work in the travel agency.

**Ex. 18 Put the verbs in brackets into the Simple Present or the Present Continuous tense:**

1. What Tom (think) of the Budget? - He (think) it most unfair. - I (agree) with him. 2. What this one (cost)?- It (cost) forty pence. 3. You (hear) the wind? It (blow) very strongly tonight. 4. You (see) my car keys anywhere? - No, I (look) for them but I (not see) them. 5 He never (listen) to what you say. He always (think) about something else. 6 This book is about a man who (desert) his family and (go) to live on a Pacific island. 7 You (understand) what the lecturer is saying? - No, I (not understand) him at all. 8 What you (have) for breakfast usually? - I usually (eat) a carrot and (drink) a glass of cold water. 9 When the curtain (rise) we (see) a group of workers. They (picket) factory gate. 10 Why you (walk) so fast today? You usually (walk) quite slowly. - I (hurry) because I (meet) my mother at 4 o'clock and she (not like) to be kept waiting. 11 I (wish) that dog would lie down. He (keep) jumping up on my lap. - I (think) he (want) to go for a walk. 12 You (recognize) that man? - I (think) that I have seen him before but I (not remember) his name. 13 Look at that crowd. I (wonder) what they (wait) for. 14 This message has just arrived and the man (wait) in case you (want) to send a reply. 15 Stop! You (not see) the notice? - I (see) it but I can't read it because I (not wear) my glasses. What it (say)? - It (say) 'These premises are patrolled by guard dogs'. 16 She always (borrow) from me and she never (remember) to pay me back. 17 You (need) another blanket or you (feel) warm enough? 18 It (save) time if you (take) the path through the wood? - No, it (not matter) which path you take. 19 I (save) up because I (go) abroad in July. 20 I (think) it is a pity you don't take more exercise. You (get) fat. 21 The plane that you (look) at now just (take) off for Paris. 22 Tom never (do) any work in the garden; he always (work) on his car. 23 What he (do) to his car now? - I (think) he (polish) it. 24 That

film (come) to the local cinema next week. You (want) to see it? 25 How Peter (get) on at school? - Very well. He (seem) to like the life. 26 Why Mrs Pitt (look) so angry? - Mr Pitt (smoke) a cigarette and (drop) the ash on the carpet. 27 This is our itinerary. We (leave) home on the 8th, (arrive) in Paris on the 9th, (spend) the day in Paris, and (set) out that night for Venice. - That (sound) most interesting. You must tell me all about it when you (get) back. 28 This story is about a boy who (make) friends with a snake which he (find) in his garden. Then he (go) away but he (not forget) the snake and some years later he (return) and (look) for it. 29 He (find) the snake who (recognize) its old friend and (coil) round him affectionately. But, unfortunately, the snake is by now a full-grown boa-constrictor and its embrace (kill) the poor boy. 30 The snake (feel) sorry about this?- I (not know). The story (end) there. 31 How you (end) a letter that (begin), 'Dear Sir'? - I always (put), 'Yours truly', but Tom (prefer) 'Yours faithfully'. 32 What the word 'catastrophe' (mean)? - It (mean) 'disaster'. 33 What you (wait) for?- I (wait) for the shop to open. - But it (not open) till 9.00. - I (know) but I (want) to be early, as their sale (start) today. 34 Why you (smoke) a cigar, Mrs Pitt? You (not smoke) cigars as a rule. - I (smoke) it because I (want) the ash. This book (say) that cigar ash mixed with oil (remove) heat stains from wood. 35 Who (own) this umbrella? - I (not know). Everybody (use) it but nobody (know) who (own) it. 36 You (mind) if I (ask) you a question? - That (depend) on the question. - It (concern) your brother. - I (refuse) to answer any question about my brother.

**Ex. 19 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct present tense:**

1 Ann sees Paul putting-on his coat and says: Where you (go), Paul? Paul: I (go) to buy some cigarettes. You (want) an evening paper? 2 Ann: No, thanks. You are always buying cigarettes, Paul. How many you (smoke) a day? Paul: I (not smoke) very many—perhaps 20. Jack (smoke) far more than I (do). He (spend) £10 a week on cigarettes. 3 Mary (see) Peter standing at the bus stop. Mary: Hello, Peter. What bus you (wait) for? Peter: Hello, Mary. I (wait) for a 9 or a 14. 4 Mary: You usually (go) to work by car, don't you? Peter: Yes, but the car (belong) to my mother and she sometimes (want) it. She (use) it today to take Tom to the dentist. 5 Mary: I usually (go) by car too. Jack (take) me because he (pass) my office on his way to the factory. But this week he (work) in a factory in the opposite direction: so I (queue) like you. 6 Peter: Here's a 9 now. You (come) on it or you (wait) for a 14? Mary: I (think) I'll take the 9. If I (wait) for a 14 I may be late, and if you (be) late at my office everyone



(look) at you. 7 Mary and Ann (wait) outside a telephone box. Inside the box a boy (dial) a number. Mary: You (know) that boy? Ann: Yes, he's a friend of my brother's. He (phone) his girl friend every day from this box. 8 Mary: Where he (come) from? Ann: He (come) from Japan. He's a very clever boy; he (speak) four languages. 9 Mary: I (wonder) what he (speak) now. Ann: Well, his girl friend (come) from Japan too; so I (suppose) he (speak) Japanese. 10 It is 8.30. Tom and Ann (have) breakfast. They both (open) their letters. Tom: No one ever (write) to me. All I (get) is bills! You (have) anything interesting? 11 Ann: I've got a letter from Hugh. He (say) he (come) to London next week and (want) us to meet him for lunch. 12 Peter: You (have) traffic wardens in your country? Pedro: No, I (not think) so. You (not see) them in my town anyway. What exactly a traffic warden (do)? 13 Peter: He (walk) up and down the street and if a car (stay) too long; at a parking place or (park) in a no-parking area he (stick) a parking ticket to the windscreen. 14 Look! He (put) a ticket on Tom's car. Tom will be furious when he (see) it. He (hate) getting parking tickets. 15 Customer: I (want) to buy a fur coat. Have you any nice coats for about £500? Assistant: I'm afraid we just (close), madam. It's 4.55, and we always (close) at 5.00 sharp on Fridays as Mr Jones the manager (not want) to miss his favourite television programme. 16 It is Friday evening and the Brown family are at home. Mrs Brown (listen) to a concert on the radio; Mr Brown (read) a paper, George Brown (do) his homework and Ann Brown (write) a letter. 17 Mr Brown always (read) his newspapers in the evenings. Mrs Brown sometimes (knit) but she (not knit) tonight. 18 Mr Black often (go) to the theatre but his wife (not go) very often. He (like) all sorts of plays. She (prefer) comedies. 19 Tonight they (watch) a very modern comedy. They (enjoy) it, but they (not understand) some of the jokes. 20 What (happen) in your class? The teacher (give) lectures every day? - No. He (give) one lecture a week, and on the other days he (show) films or (discuss) books with us. 21 A bus conductor (get) more exercise than a bus driver. The driver just (sit) in his cab but the conductor (stand) and (walk) about and (run) up and down the stairs. 22 Why that man (stand) in the middle of the road? - He (try) to get across. He (wait) for a gap in the traffic. - Why he (not use) the subway? - Lots of people (not bother) to use the subway. They (prefer) to risk their lives crossing here. 23 You (wear) a new coat, aren't you? - Yes. You (like) it? - The colour (suit) you but it (not fit) you very well. It's much too big. 24 All the guides here (speak) at least three foreign languages, because a lot of foreign visitors (come) every summer. 25 Paul (take) a party of French tourists round now and tomorrow an American party (come). 26

Englishmen very seldom (talk) on the Underground. They (prefer) to read their newspapers. - Those two men in the corner (talk). - But they (not talk) English. 27 Jones and Co. (have) a sale at the moment. Shall we look in on our way home? - I'd love to but I'm afraid I won't have time. I (meet) Tom at 5.30. - You (go) out with Tom often? 28 I usually (go) by train, but this weekend I (go) by bus. It (take) longer but it (cost) less. 29 Ann (on telephone): You (do) anything at the moment, Sally? Sally: Yes. I (pack); I (catch) a plane to New York in three hours' time. Ann: Lucky girl! How long you (stay) in New York? 30 Peter: You (go) out tonight, Paul? Paul: No, I (stay) at home. The neighbours (come) in to watch TV. Peter: You (invite) the neighbours often? Paul: No, but they (invite) themselves whenever there is a good programme. 31 Jack: I just (go) out to get an evening paper. Ann: But it (pour)! Why you (not wait) till the rain (stop)? (I advise you to wait.) 32 Lucy: Tom (get) up very early but he (wash) and (shave) and (get) his breakfast so quietly that I (not hear) a thing. But I (hear) him driving away from the house because his car (make) a lot of noise. 33 Alice: My brother (get) up very early too. But he (make) such a lot of noise that he (wake) everybody up. He (sing) in his bath and (bang) doors and (drop) things in the kitchen and (play) the radio very loudly. 34 Lucy: Why you (not ask) him to be a bit quieter? Alice: I (mention) it every night but it (not do) any good. He (say) that he (not make) a sound, and I (think) he really (believe) it. 35 Tom: You (see) that man at the corner? He (keep) stopping people and asking them questions. You (think) he (ask) for directions? Jack: No, I (expect) he (make) a survey. Tom: How you (make) a survey? Jack: You (stop) people and (ask) them questions and (write) the answers on a report sheet. 36 In most countries a child (start) school at six and (stay) for about five years in a primary school. Then he (move) to a secondary school. At 17 or 18 he (take) an exam; if he (do) well in this exam he can go on to a university if he (wish).

**Ex. 20 Complete the conversations. Put in the correct form of each verb. Use the present continuous or the present simple:**

1. A: ... (I / think) of buying a new computer.

B: But computers ... (cost) so much money. What's wrong with the one we've got?

A: ... (it / get) out of date now.

2. A: Your new trousers ... (look) nice.

B: Thank you. The trouble is ... (they / not / fit) properly. ... (I / not / know) why I bought them, really.

3. A: What... (you/do)?

B: ... (I / weigh) this letter ... (I / need) to know how many stamps to put on it.

4. A: ... (I / think) this road is really dangerous. Look how fast that lorry

B: ... (I / agree). People shouldn't go so fast.

5. A: ... (I / like) musicals. And this is a great show, isn't it? ... (you / enjoy) it?

B: Yes, I am. ... (I / love) every minute of it.

6. A: ... (I / always / fall) asleep. I just can't keep awake.

B: What time ... (you / go) to bed?

A: About ten o'clock usually. But ... (it / not / make) any difference.

7. A: Could you post the goods to me, please?

B: Yes, certainly.

A: ... (I / live) at a guest house at the moment as ... (I / look) for a flat. So could you send it to my work address?

B: Yes, of course. And you'll have the goods by the end of the week, ... (I / promise).

8. A: Why ... (you / want) to change the whole plan?

B: I'm just not happy with it.

A: And ... (I / not / understand) why ... (you / be) so difficult about it.

**Ex. 21 Put the verbs in brackets into the Simple Present or the Present Continuous tense:**

1 Mrs Jones: My daughter never (write) to me so I never (know) what she (do). Your son (write) to you, Mrs Smith? Mrs Smith: Yes, I (hear) from him every week. He (seem) to like writing letters. 2 These apples (cost) 40p a bag. You (think) that is expensive? - It (depend) on the size of the bag. 3 I (see) my solicitor tomorrow (/ have arranged this)', I (change) my will. - You always (change) your will. Why you (not leave) it alone? 4 You (look) very thoughtful. What you (think) about? - I (think) about my retirement. - But you're only 25. You only just (start) your career. - I (know); but I (read) an article which (say) that a sensible man (start) thinking about retirement at 25. 5 My next door neighbour always (knock) on my door and (ask) me lend her 10p pieces. - What she (do) with them? - She (put) them in her gas meter. I really (not mind) lending her a few 10p pieces but what (annoy) me is that she (know) how many she (need) each week but never (take) the trouble to bring the right number home. - 6 What she (do) if she (run out) of them when you are away? - Oh, she (borrow) from her other neighbour, Mr White; but this (take) longer because he always (want) her to stay and chat and she (find) quite hard to get away from him. - 7 How much she (owe) you now? - I (not know); I (not keep) an account. Anyway she (leave) next week; she (get) married. I (try) to

think of a suitable wedding present. 8 Why you (not offer) to cancel her debt? - That (sound) rather a mean sort of present. Anyway she probably (not realize) that she (owe) me money. - 9 My brother (say) that people who (owe) him money always (seem) forget about it, but people he (owe) money to always (remember) exactly. 10 I (not think) your brother (enjoy) the party. He (keep) looking at his watch. - Oh, I'm sure he (enjoy) it. He always (enjoy) your parties. But I (know) he (want) to be home early tonight because he (expect) an important telephone call. 11 Jack: How much longer you (stay) in England? Paul: Only one more day. I (leave) tomorrow night. I (go) to Holland for two weeks. 12 Jack: And you (come) back to England after that or you (go) home? Paul: It (depend) on my father. But if he (agree) to let me go on studying here, I'll certainly come back. And I (expect) he will agree. 13 Paul: By the way, Jack, Ann (see) me off at Victoria tomorrow. Why you (not come) too? You could have coffee with her afterwards. (Paul is advising/inviting Jack to come and see him off.) 14 You (see) that man at the corner of the street? He is a private detective. He (watch) No. 24. - How you (know) he (watch) No. 24? - Because whenever anyone (come) out of, or (go) into, the house he (make) a note in his little book. 15 What all those people (do) in the middle of the street? And why they (wear) such extraordinary clothes? - They (make) a film. Most of the crowd are local people who (work) as extras. - 16 It (sound) great fun. You (think) I could get a job as a film extra? - I (not know) but I (see) Ann over there; when they (finish) this scene I'll ask her if they still (take) on extras. - 17 Ann (act) in the film? - She has a small part. She (not act) very well. I (imagine) she got the part because she (know) the director. 18 My brother (live) next door and his two children (come) and (see) me every day. The boy (not bother) to knock at the door; he just (climb) in through the window; but the girl always (knock). 19 Tom: We (move) into our new house tomorrow. Bill: But why you (leave) your present house? It (suit) you all. Tom: Yes, I (know) it (do); but the Council (pull down) all the houses on this side. They (widen) the road. They (say) it's a bottleneck. 20 If you (ask) a friend if she (like) your new dress she usually (say) 'Yes'; so you (not know) whether she really (think) it (suit) you or whether she merely (be) polite. 21 If you (want) a candid opinion you'd better ask my sister. She never (tell) white lies; she always (say) exactly what she (think). 22 Your sister's frankness (annoy) people? - Yes, it (do). The average person (not want) a truthful answer; he (want) you to say something agreeable. 23 I (hear) that you have bought a new house. - Yes, but I (not live) in it yet. They still (work) on it, and the work (take) longer than I expected. - 24 I (think) repair jobs always (take) longer

than one (expect). What they (do) now? - They (put) in new electric points. They (seem) competent electricians but they (smoke) at their work and this (slow) them down. 25 They always (hammer) next door. - Yes, that house (keep) changing hands and the new owner always (begin) by putting in a new fireplace, and their fireplace is just on the other side of this wall so we (hear) everything. The wall (shake), too. 26 Ann (stir) something in a saucepan and Mary (stand) beside her holding a cookery book. Mary: It (say) 'simmer', and you (boil) it, Ann. Ann: I (not think) it (matter) if you (cook) it quickly; but I (not know) why it (not get) thick. It usually (thicken) at once. 27 The hall (be) painted at the moment, so it (not look) its best. - But where are the painters? They (stop) work at 3.00? - No, they are in the kitchen. They (have) a tea break. 28 What the word 'Establishment' (mean)? My dictionary (not give) an explanation. - It roughly (mean) the government and people who (have) power and authority. 29 If we (say) that Mr Brown (belong) to the Establishment we also (imply) that he (accept) the existing system. He (not try) to overthrow it. - 30 All rich men (belong) to the Establishment? - Middle-aged rich men probably (do) but rich young men like pop singers always (jeer) at the Establishment. The word (be used) chiefly in a pejorative sense. 31 The house opposite the college (be pulled) down. That's why we (use) the back entrance at present. If you (go) out by the front door you (get) covered with dust. 32 Tom: I (smell) something burning! Jack: So (do) I. I (think) it (come) from the kitchen. Ann probably (iron). She usually (iron) and (watch) TV at the same time and if she (get) very interested in a programme she (forget) that she (press) a hot iron on to somebody's shirt. Mother (think) of selling the TV set. 33 Mrs Jones: What you (look) for, Tom? Mr Jones: I (look) for the garage key. I always (look) for the garage key, because nobody ever (put) it back on its hook. Mrs Jones: I always (put) it back on its hook. Why you (not try) your pockets? (I advise you to try your pockets). 34 Imagine that you (travel) by train, in a crowded compartment. One of the passengers (read) a newspaper; another (do) a crossword puzzle; another (look out) of the window. Suddenly the train (stop) with a jerk and your suitcase (fall) off the rack on to somebody's toes. 35 This is a story about an invalid who (spend) most of the day in bed. He has a powerful telescope and he (amuse) himself by watching the activities of the people in the opposite houses. One day when he (watch) No. 24 he (see) a murder being committed. 36 The cashier used to do the accounts and I used to check his figures now the computer (do) it all. - And who (check) the computer? - No one. The computer (not need) a second opinion. - And what (happen) if

the computer (make) a mistake? - The computer never (make) a mistake.

**Ex. 22 Translate the following sentences into English concentrating on the choice between the Present Indefinite and the Present Continuous to express actions taking place at the moment of speaking:**

1. «Это моя ошибка. Я приношу свои извинения», — сказал он. 2. «Где лейтенант?» — «Он там вон лежит и наблюдает за вражеским патрулем». 3. Я все еще не понимаю вас. 4. На перекрестке старик сказал торопливо: «Здесь я расстанусь с тобой. Я иду к дочери». 5. Я говорю тебе это в качестве предупреждения, Милли. 6. Он знает, что мы уходим? 7. «Вы что, хотите мне сказать, что мой отец лжет?» — «О нет, нет, молодой человек, вы преувеличиваете». 8. Что ты имеешь в виду, Сэм? Ты говоришь загадками. 9. Не груби. Тебе это не идет. 10. «Неужели ты не видишь, что я устал? Все, что мне сейчас нужно, — это сигарета и ванна». 11. «Как ты себя чувствуешь? Почему ты не ешь суп?» — «Я не хочу». 12. «Поль где-то здесь?» — «Он принимает ванну». 13. «Почему ты такой раздражительный?» — «Я не раздражительный». — «Тогда не кричи». — «Я не кричу».

**Ex. 23 Use the Present Indefinite or the Present Continuous of the verbs in brackets:**

1. I'm about to move to London and I (to try) to decide which books and records to take along. 2. "You're young," he said. "Young people (to do) a lot of foolish things." 3. Why you (to wear) an engagement ring? You are not engaged. 4. It was a shock to her, but she is the kind that (not to break) down. 5. One shouldn't drink when one (to drive). 6. She always (to try) a little too hard to make people like her. 7. "What he (to do) there?" "He (to write) a book, I believe." 8. He (to know) a lot of languages. 9. What you (to do) when you are by yourself? 10. "Ellen (to wait) for you." "Yes, I know." 11. Write him a note and see it (to be) delivered. 12. Why you (not to try) to rest now, Sam? Try and sleep. 13. I'm sorry you (not to feel) well, dear. 14. "I (to start) work next week." "And we all (to look) forward very much to having you in the office. You (to join) us at an interesting time." 15. "Ray, come here a minute, will you?" "Oh, what you (to want)? Can't you see I (to watch) the telly?" 16. She asked George who hadn't moved, "Well, what you (to stand) there for? What you (to think) about?" 17. What sort of parts you (to play) on the stage? 18. "What you (to do) tonight?" "I don't know yet. I (to get) rather used to being at home every night." 19. Jill (to be) rude to me. Why you (not to stop) her? 20. "You ever (to play) cards?" he asked. 21. "What we (to do) now?" "When it (to be) light we'll

go back to the car." 22. For goodness' sake see that these new boys (to get) their hair cut properly. 23. She (to suffer) from a very unusual form of kidney disease. 24. I (not to go) home for lunch on Mondays. Mother (to get) up early on Mondays and (to do) her washing. 25. When she looked at him he was no longer smiling and lost in thought again. "How quickly your mood (to change)!" she exclaimed. 25. "Come to my room this minute," he said. "You (to hear) me? Please, hurry, I (to wait) for you." 26. "Of course I (to joke)," he said in confusion. 27. "How's Jon?" "He (to grow) peaches in North Carolina." 28. "Mr Desert in?" "No, Sir. Mr. Desert has just started for the East. His ship (to sail) tomorrow." "Oh," said Michael blankly: "Where from?" "Plymouth, Sir. His train (to leave) Paddington at midnight. You may catch him yet." 29. You (to look) hot. Haven't you something cooler to wear? 30. Sometimes I (to think) about what you and I (to do) here, and whether any of it is really worth it. 31. "Yes, how time (to fly)" observed Lily. 32. "You must let me out here. Now I can easily walk to the railway station." "What train you (to take)!" "The next to Montreal." "Then you (to leave) Canada." "Yes." "Just a holiday?" "No. I (to return) to England." 33. "The note (to say) that you are to blame." "She (to lie)" "Who (to lie)?" "The teacher." 34. Well, the easiest way to make sure that I (not to say) the wrong thing is not to bring your friends here. 35. Philip looked down at his son. "You are a little beggar," he said. "You always (to want) something." 36. "Sh ... sh!" she warned. "You (to become) conspicuous." 37. He certainly wants to see you. It's the last chance because his regiment (to leave) the country early next week. 38. I (to see) him tomorrow. 39. I'll see to it that he (to take) his sister with him. 40. The boy appeared with a railway time-table in his hand. "The next train (to leave) in twenty minutes."

**Ex. 24 Translate the sentences using the Present Indefinite or the Present Continuous:**

1. Дождь все еще идет. Я вижу дождевые капли на стекле. 2. Эти люди так пристально смотрят на вас. Вы знаете их? 3. Как называется журнал, который вы просматриваете? 4. Что вы стоите в дверях? Проходите, мы как раз пьем чай. 5. Мы приближаемся к морю. 6. Что ты слушаешь? – Я слушаю концерт из Колонного зала. 7. Этот человек очень хорошо говорит по-английски, но мне трудно понимать его, так как он говорит очень быстро, а я знаю язык недостаточно хорошо. 8. Молодой рабочий, с которым разговаривает журналист, работает на 12 станках. Сейчас он, очевидно, рассказывает о своих методах. 9. Я не люблю таких людей, как он. Он всегда мечтает, но

ничего не делает, чтобы осуществить свои мечты. 10. Позвони на вокзал и узнай, когда приходит поезд из Москвы. 11. Достаньте билет. Контролер проверяет билеты. 12. Не шевелись, фотограф уже тебя снимает. 13. Вы ошиблись. Вы передаете мне горчицу, а не перец. 14. Она всегда жалуется на своего сына, когда бы я ее не встретил. 15. Не входите в комнату. Он проявляет пленки.

## Unit 4 The Past Indefinite (Simple) Tense

### Formation

The Simple Past tense in regular verbs is formed by adding the suffix – **ed** or by using the simple past form of an irregular verb. The same form is used for all persons.

Infinitive: *to work*      Simple past: *worked*  
*to go*                              *went*

The negative of regular and irregular verbs is formed with **did not** (**didn't**) and the infinitive:

*I did not/didn't work*  
*you did not/didn't work*

The interrogative of regular and irregular verbs is formed with **did** + **subject** + **infinitive**:

*did I work?*      *did you work?*

### Spelling rules

1 Verbs ending in **-e** add **-d**: *phone/phoned, smile/smiled*. This rule applies equally to *agree, die, lie, age, free, knee, referee, tiptoe*

2 Verbs not ending in **-e** add **-ed**: *ask/asked, clean/cleaned, follow/followed, video/videoed*

3 Verbs spelt with a single vowel letter followed by a single consonant letter double the consonant: *beg/begged, rub/rubbed, stop/stopped*

4 In two-syllable verbs the final consonant is doubled when the last syllable contains a single vowel letter followed by a single consonant letter and is stressed: *pre'fer/preferred, re'fer/referred, occur/occurred*

**Compare:** *'benefit/benefited, 'differ/differed and 'profit/profited*

5 Verbs ending in **-y** following a consonant change the **y** into **i** before adding **ed**:

*carry/ carried, try/ tried*. But **y** following a vowel does not change: *obey/*



*obeyed.*

6 In British English when a two syllable verb ends in a single vowel letter followed by a single *-l*, the *-l* is doubled before *-ed* even if there is no stress on the last syllable: *travel/travelled*, *quarrel/quarrelled*. A few other verbs have their final consonant letter doubled: *program/programmed*, *worship/worshipped*, *kidnap/kidnapped*. **BUT!** American English: *travel/traveled*, *worship/worshipped*

## Main uses

1 For a past action when the time is given. The past reference can be shown by various adverbs of time such as: *yesterday*, *the day before yesterday*, *last (that) Saturday*, *last (that) week/month/year*, *an hour/minute/second ago*, *in 1790*, *at one time*, *once*, *recently*, *the other day*, *just now*.

*I met him yesterday.      Pasteur died in 1895.*

2 When the time is asked about:

When *did you meet him?*

3 When the action clearly took place at a definite time even though this time is not mentioned. There may be **the indication of the definite place where an action happened:**

*I met him at the meeting.    Who did you see in the hospital?*

*The train was ten minutes late. How did you get your present job? I bought this car in Montreal.*

4 Sometimes the time becomes definite as a result of a question and answer in the present perfect:

*Where have you been? - I've been to the opera. - Did you enjoy it?*

5 The simple past tense is used for an action whose time is not given but which (a) occupied a period of time now terminated, or (b) occurred at a moment in a period of time now terminated.

*He worked in that bank for four years. (but he does not work there now)*

*She lived in Rome for a long time. (but she is not living there now)*

*My grandmother once saw Queen Victoria.*

*Did you ever hear Maria Callas sing?*

6 The simple past tense is also used for a **past habit:**

*He always carried an umbrella. They never drank wine.*

**There are more ways of expressing habitual actions in the past:**

**6A** by means of the form used to + infinitive to express a past habit or a past situation which contrasts with the present. It can be found with expressions like: *but...now, but not any more, but not any longer*. In Russian it's rendered by "прежде, раньше, бывало".

*Some years ago he **used to call** me every day, he never does it now.*

Used to + infinitive can also refer to past states:

*He **used to be** very polite.*

**!!! The negative form is I didn't use to ...**

**6B** by means of would+ infinitive to express will, insistence. It is used to describe repeated actions, not states. When we use this construction we need to mention a specific time or a set of occasions. In Russian it's rendered by "бывало".

*This **used to be** my mother's room, and I **would sit** here for hours.*

*Whenever we went to the country we **would play** in the garden.*

**7** The simple past is used for a succession of past actions:

*I **entered** the room, **looked** around and **noticed** a letter on the table.*

**8** The simple past may be used to express a future action viewed from the past:

*She **noticed** she **would do** it if nothing unexpected happened.*

## **Practice**

**Ex. 25 Explain the use of the Past Indefinite in the following sentences:**

1. Then a bomb *hit* close by. He *felt* himself being lifted. Then he *was* out. Later, he *opened* his eyes. He *began* to hurt and he *didn't think* about anything for a long time. 2. At home we *heated* soup. 3. A netting wire fence *ran* all around the house to keep out rabbits and deer. 4. My aunt *looked after* my father and they *lived* in our old house. 5. "Wow!" he *said* to the wide straw hat I *wore*. 6. He always *smiled* at children and *gave* them sweets. 7. He *moved* across the lawn to the house and I *followed* him. The moonlight *fell* in streaks through the leaves. 8. "Did you *hear* about the party?" "It *was* a complete failure?" 9. You *heard* what he *said*. 10. She *knew* her brother at the University where he *lectured* on physics. 11. That

evening she *had* a date with a man who *sold* cosmetics. 12. He *sat down* and silently *took* one of the cigarettes from the desk. 13. In Port-au-Prince nobody *walked* at night. 14. The office *smelt* like a stage dressing-room. 15. He *collected* books on Caribbean flora. 16. He *added* after a pause, "I *saw* you talking to the captain just now." 17. He *did* his best to look after her; he *took* her out on long slow strolls; he *saw* that she *went* to bed early. 18. He *decided* that he would make sure that their promise *came* true. 20. I wonder what *happened* to him in India.

**Ex. 26 Complete the newspaper story about a fire. Put in the past simple forms of the verbs:**

Two people ... (die) in a fire in Ellis Street, Oldport yesterday morning. They ... (be) Herbert and Molly Paynter, a couple in their seventies. The fire ... (start) at 3.20 am. A neighbour, Mr Aziz, ... (see) the flames and ... (call) the fire brigade. He also ... (try) to get into the house and rescue his neighbours, but the heat ... (be) too great. The fire brigade ... (arrive) in five minutes. Twenty fire-fighters ... (fight) the fire and finally ... (bring) it under control. Two fire-fighters ... (enter) the burning building but ... (find) the couple dead.

**Ex. 27 Complete the conversation. Put in the past simple negatives and questions:**

Claire: ... (you / have) a nice weekend in Paris?

Mark: Yes, thanks. It was good. We looked around and then we saw a show. ... (we / not / try) to do too much.

Claire: What sights ... (you / see)?

Mark: We had a look round the Louvre. ... (I / not / know) there was so much in there.

Claire: And what show ... (you / go) to?

Mark: Oh, a musical. I forget the name. ... (I / not / like) it.

Claire: Oh, dear. And ... (Sarah / enjoy) it?

Mark: No, not really. But we enjoyed the weekend. Sarah did some shopping, too, but ... (I / not / want) to go shopping.

**Ex. 28 Translate the sentences using the Present Indefinite or the Past Indefinite:**

1. Я очень благодарен вам за то, что вчера при встрече напомнили ему об этом. 2. Он улыбнулся, когда увидел своего приятеля в окне вагона. 3. Жаль, что вы не хотите воспользоваться такой возможностью. 4. Шофер остановил машину и сказал, что мотор не в

порядке и надо его проверить. 5. Этой книги уже нет в продаже. Жаль, что я не купил ее на прошлой неделе. 6. Кажется, он интересуется химией. – Да, он увлекался ею еще в школе. 7. Я даже еще сейчас сержусь на вас за то, что вы были так невнимательны вчера. 8. Наша библиотека снабжает студентов всеми нужными им книгами. 9. Он был настолько самоуверен, что считал, что к нему эти правила не относятся. 10. По его улыбке я понял, что ему приятно услышать эти новости.

## Unit 5 The Past Continuous (Progressive) Tense

### Formation

The past continuous tense is formed with the past tense of the auxiliary verb *be* + the present participle (the infinitive + ing).

**Table 4**

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
<i>I was working</i>	<i>I was not working</i>	<i>was I working?</i>
<i>you were working</i>	<i>you were not working</i>	<i>were you working?</i>
<i>he/she/it was working</i>	<i>he/she/it was not working</i>	<i>was he/she/it working?</i>
<i>we were working</i>	<i>we were not working</i>	<i>were we working?</i>
<i>you were working</i>	<i>you were not working</i>	<i>were you working?</i>
<i>they were working</i>	<i>they were not working</i>	<i>were they working?</i>

### Main uses

**1** to express an action which was in progress **at a given moment in the past.**

*At eight he was having breakfast.*

*What were you doing at this time yesterday?*

**2** to express the activity which was in progress **during a period of time in the past.**

*I was painting all day yesterday.*

*They were quarrelling the whole time they were together.*

Often we don't know whether the action was completed or not:

*She was writing her essay last night.*

**3** The past continuous is often used to refer to a **temporary situation**.

*He was working at home at the time.*

*Bill was using my office until I came back from America.*

**4 Parallel actions.** We can emphasize the fact that two or more actions were in progress at the same time by using **while** or **at the time (that)**:

*While I was working in the garden, my wife was cooking dinner.*

**5** The past progressive and the simple past are often used together in a sentence. The past progressive describes a situation or action in progress in the past, and the simple past describes a shorter action or event. The action or situation in progress is often introduced by conjunctions like **when, as, just as, while**:

*Just as I was leaving the house the phone rang.*

*Jane met Frank Sinatra when she was living in Hollywood.*

Or the shorter action can be introduced by **when**:

*We were having supper when the phone rang.*

We can often use the simple past to describe the action in progress, but the progressive puts more emphasis on the duration of the action, as in the second of these two examples:

*While I fumbled for some money, my friend paid the fares.*

*While I was fumbling for some money, my friend paid the fares.*

In the same way, **still** can emphasize duration:

*Jim was talking to his girlfriend on the phone when I came in and was still talking to her when I went out an hour later.*

**6 Developing or changing situations in the past:**

*It was getting darker.      The wind was rising.*

*The unemployment rate was increasing.*

**7 Repeated actions – criticism.** (This use is similar to that of the present progressive).

*When he worked here, Roger was always making mistakes.*

*He was always ringing me up.*

*She was noisy and brash and constantly trying to attract attention by any means.*

**8** Just as the present continuous can be used to express a **definite future arrangement**, the past continuous can express **this sort of future in the past**:

*He was busy packing, for he was leaving that night. (The decision to leave had been made some time previously.)*

*Why didn't you tell me you were starting?*

*He didn't know how he could inform them that he was not coming.*

**9** We use the past continuous tense in **descriptions**. Note the combination of description (past continuous) with narrative (simple past):  
*A wood fire was burning on the hearth, and a cat was sleeping in front of it. A girl was playing the piano and (was) singing softly to herself. Suddenly there was a knock on the door. The girl stopped playing. The cat woke up.*

### **Practice**

**Ex. 29 Explain the use of the Past Continuous in the following sentences:**

1. The front door of the house *stood* open. The maid *was polishing* the windows. 2. After a while he informed me that John *was doing* a translation of some poems from Spanish. 3. I knew Harry *was coming* sometime on Monday. 4. You remember how he *was always writing* verses. 5. He glanced my way to see if I *was listening*. 6. By the time the month was up, Eric realized he *was fighting* a losing battle. 7. Roma said: "Hallo, everybody. We *were passing* and saw the light in the studio. We guessed you *were having* a party." 8. She stopped beside Tommy who was in a particularly scornful mood. He *was leaving* in the morning. 9. Well, I was taught not to interrupt when older people *were talking*. 10. He looked across the street to see if they *were waiting*. 11. "What *were you doing* in New York, Mr Brown?" "I *was trying* to find someone to buy my hotel," he replied truthfully. 12. It *was raining* when I left. 13. "This is his breakfast," Adeline said, indicating the tray with a bandaged finger. She *was always suffering* from a cut or a burn.

**Ex. 30 Complete the conversation. Put in the past continuous forms:**

Jessica: ... (I / look) for you, Vicky. I'm afraid I've broken this dish.

Vicky: Oh no! What ... (you / do)?

Jessica: ... (I / take) it into the kitchen. I bumped into Emma. ... (she / come) out just as ... (I / go) in.

Vicky: I expect it was your fault. ... (you / not / look) where ... (you / go).

Jessica: Sorry. I'll buy you another one as soon as I have some money.

**Ex. 31 Put the verbs in brackets into the past continuous tense. Explain the use of the forms:**

1 Detective: I'm afraid I must ask you both what you (do) yesterday at 10.20 p.m. Mr X: I (play) chess with my wife. Mr Y: I (listen) to a play on the radio. 2 The children were frightened because it (get) dark. 3 It was a fine day and the roads were crowded because a lot of people (rush) to the seaside. 4 The airplane in which the football team (travel) crashed soon after taking off. 5 He usually wears sandals but when I last saw him he (wear) boots. 6 The house was in great disorder because he (redecorate) it. 7 The director didn't allow the actors to travel by air while they (work) on the film. 8 The car had nobody in it but the engine (run). 9 Two children (play) on the sand and two fishermen (lean) against an upturned boat. 10 I was alone in the house at that time because Mr Jones (work) in the garage and Mrs Jones (shop). 11 He said that he was the captain of a ship which (sail) that night for Marseilles. 12 Are you going to Rome? I thought that you (go) to Milan. 13 My wife and I (talk) about you the other day. 14 When I first met him he (study) painting. 15 There was a strong smell and the sound of frying. Obviously Mrs Jones (cook) fish. 16 Tom ate nothing for lunch because he (diet). He said that he (try) to lose 10 kilos. 17 Who you (talk) to on the telephone as I came in? I (talk) to Mr Pitt. 18 As she (climb) the ladder it slipped sideways and she fell off it. 19 When I first met him he (work) in a restaurant. 20 He watched the children for a moment. Some of them (bathe) in the sea, others (look) for shells, others (play) in the sand. 21 Where he (live) when you saw him last? 22 She (stand) at the bus stop. I asked her what bus she (wait) for. 23 From the sounds it was clear that Mary (practise) the piano. 24 There had been an accident and men (carry) the injured people to an ambulance. 25 Two men (fight) at a street corner and a policeman (try) to stop them. - What they (fight) about? - Nobody seemed to know. 26 Tom (sit) in a corner with a book. I told him that he (read) in very bad light. 27 I went into the garden to see what the boys (do). James (weed) and Alexander (cut) the grass. 28 They had taken off the wheel of the car and (mend) the puncture. I asked when it would be ready. 29 When I arrived at the meeting the first speaker had just finished speaking and the audience (clap). 30 The traffic (make) so much noise that I couldn't hear what he (say). 31 While he (learn) to drive he had twenty-five accidents. 32 He had a bad fall while he (repair) his roof. 33 He was a little mad. He always (try) to prove that the earth was flat. 34 While we (fish) someone came to the house and left this note. 35 The exam had just begun and the candidates (write) their names at the top of their papers. 36 Just as I (wonder) what to

do next, the phone rang.

## Unit 6 The Past Continuous as an alternative to the Simple Past

**1** The past continuous used with a point in time expresses an action which began before that time and probably continued after it.

*Mike was having breakfast at eight.* (It implies that he was in the middle of breakfast at eight, i.e. that he had started it before eight).

Compare: *He had breakfast at eight* would imply that he started it at eight.

**2** If we replace the time expression with a verb in the simple past tense: *When I arrived Tom was talking on the phone* we convey the idea that the action in the past continuous started before the action in the simple past and probably continued after it.

Compare this combination with a combination of two simple past tenses, which normally indicates **successive actions**:

*When he saw me he put the receiver down.*

**3** The past continuous can be used as an alternative to the simple past to **indicate a more casual, less deliberate action**:

*I was talking to Tom the other day.*

The past continuous here gives the impression that the action was **in no way unusual or remarkable**. It also tends to remove responsibility from the subject. In the above example it is not clear who started the conversation, and it does not matter.

Compare the contrast with the simple past tense:

*I talked to Tom*, which indicates that I took the initiative.

Similarly:

*From four to six Tom was washing the car.* This would indicate that this was a casual, possibly routine action.

Compare with:

*From four to six Tom washed the car.* (implying a deliberate action by Tom)

Note that continuous tenses are used only for apparently continuous uninterrupted actions. If we divide the action up, or say how many times it happened, we must use the simple past:

*I talked to Tom several times. Tom washed both cars.*

**4 Polite inquiries.** This use is even more polite and tentative than the



simple past:

*I was wondering if you could give me a lift.*

In questions about how a period was spent, the continuous often appears more polite than the simple past:

*What were you doing before you came here?* sounds more polite than

*What did you do before you came here?*

On the other hand, *What were you doing in my room?* could indicate a feeling that I think you had no right to be there, while *What did you do in my room?* could never give this impression.

**5** With the verbs *think, hope* the past continuous suggests **uncertainty**:

*I was thinking of having a party next week.*

*I was hoping you'd like to come out with me.*

**6** When we talk about two past actions or events that went on over the same period of time we can often use the past continuous for both:

*Sally was reading to the children while Kevin was washing up.*

However, we can often use the past simple to express a similar meaning:

*Mario worked in a restaurant while he lived in London.*

**7** Note the following sentence patterns in which we find the Past Indefinite and the Past Continuous used in different combinations with each other:

1) A complex sentence with a clause of time introduced by the conjunction *as*. Within that pattern there may be **three different kinds of time relations** between the action of the subordinate clause and that of the principal clause.

a) The actions of the two clauses are **fully simultaneous**. In this case the Past Indefinite is commonly found in both clauses.

*I watched him as he drank his tea.*

*Roy talked little as they drove home.*

Occasionally the Past Continuous is found in the principal clause whereas the Past Indefinite is still used in the clause of time. It usually happens when the verb in the principal clause is terminative and the Past Indefinite would indicate a completed action.

*As I poured her out a glass of sherry, she was saying: "I always imagined you were older."*

b) The actions of the principal and the subordinate clauses are **partially simultaneous**. In this case the action of the subordinate clause serves as a

background for the action of the principal clause which is usually a shorter accomplished action. In this case we normally find the Past Continuous in the subordinate clause and the Past Indefinite in the principal clause.

*As I was going inside, Mrs Drawbell intercepted me.*

*One evening, just as I was leaving the office, Martin rang me up.*

c) **The actions of the two clauses form a succession.** In this case, naturally, only the Past Indefinite is found.

*As the sun disappeared, a fresh breeze stirred the new curtains at the window.*

*As I turned back into the room a gust of wind crashed the door shut behind me.*

2) A complex sentence with a clause of time introduced by the conjunction **while**. Here we find two different kinds of time relations between the actions of the two clauses.

a) **The actions are fully simultaneous.** In this case either the Past Continuous or the Past Indefinite is used in the subordinate clause and the Past Indefinite is normally found in the principal clause:

*Martha said nothing but looked from one face to the other while they discussed plans.*

*She sat still as a statue while he was playing the sonata.*

b) **The actions are partially simultaneous.** In this case the action of the subordinate clause serves as a background for the action of the principal clause which is a shorter accomplished action. So the Past Indefinite is used in the principal clause while in the subordinate clause either the Past Indefinite or the Past Continuous is found.

*While I was reading, I heard a splash from the bath, and I realized that Martin must be there.*

*While he stood there wondering what sort of pictures to hang on the walls he heard the telephone ring.*

## Practice

**Ex. 32 Explain the use of the Past Continuous and the Past Indefinite in the following sentences which contain actions taking place at a given past moment:**

1. We *had* some difficulty with Jerry, who *was enjoying* himself and *did not want* to come away. 2. He *laughed and said* how nice the country *looked*. Branches and little dark delicate twigs *formed* a fretwork of black lace against a cold, silvery sky. 3. It *was getting* dark now, and the general

*drove* more slowly than ever. 4. I *was driving* along a country road when I *spotted* a telephone box. 5. I *looked* at my watch — it *read* five minutes to eleven. 6. I *looked* at my husband. He *was reading* a letter. 7. Philip *made* no haste to move from where he *sat*. 8. Lunch *was over*. Theo *was smoking* a cigarette. Barbara *was sitting* on the window seat with a book in her hands. 9. I *rang* the bell and the door was opened by a small man in overalls who *was carrying* a pot of white paint. 10. In the dim light it was difficult for the passengers to read the papers they *carried*. 11. I *offered* to call him up but they *told* me that the telephone *didn't work*. 12. I *looked* into my father's study. He *was no longer working*. 13. John, turning from the door, *noticed* that he *was standing* upon a letter which *lay* on the mat.

**Ex. 33 Use the Past Continuous or the Past Indefinite in the following sentences:**

1. I (to have) an uncomfortable feeling that he (to laugh) at me. 2. They (to move) into the shelter. The rain (to come) down swiftly. 3. The general (to wait) on the platform when I (to arrive) at Camberley. 4. She (to be) on her guard because he always (to tease) her. 5. I only (to want) to know if you (to come) on Saturday. 6. He (to see) to it that their publishing house (to become) a flourishing firm again. 7. He (to have) a bath when the sirens (to start). 8. He (to walk) in the frosty fields when he (not to work). 9. Jack (to look) at her trying to guess what (to come). 10. The road under the limes (to lead) straight to the village. 11. He (to find) that he (to speak) in a low voice. 12. He (to be) surprised to find how much her hands (to shake). 13. It (to be) suddenly clear to me that she (to act) a part and (to amuse) herself at our expense. 14. Mother said you (to join) the Bombardier Guards. 15. I (to know) that they (to go) out that night. 17. He (to have) interests elsewhere. He always (to ask) for special leave. 18. Then he (to notice) Jack. He (to stand) in front of the fire and (to talk) Italian to a man in glasses. 19. When I (to come) up to her she (to search) through a velvet bag which she always (to carry) for her spectacles which she always (to lose).

**Ex. 34 Put in the correct form of the verb:**

Rita: I hear the lights ... (go) out in your flats last night.

Emma: Yes, (I / watch) a documentary on TV when suddenly ... (we / lose) all the power. But ... (it / come) on again after about ten minutes.

Vicky: Rachel ... (come) down the stairs when the lights ... (go) out. She almost ... (fall) over.

Daniel: Matthew and I ... (play) table tennis at the time.

Andrew: ... (I / work) on the computer. ... (I / lose) a whole hour's work. But this morning ... (I/get) up early and ... (do) it again.

**Ex. 35 Choose the proper tense form: the Past Indefinite or the Past Continuous:**

1. While he rode/was riding in the forest he lost/was losing his way.
2. When I arrived/was arriving the party was in full swing. Paul danced/was dancing with Mary, and Pat and Peter drank/were drinking champagne.
3. When I finished/was finishing the ironing, I cooked/was cooking dinner.
4. How fast did they travel/were they travelling when their car had/was having a puncture.
5. A police car passed/was passing us on the motorway when we did/were doing 80 miles per hour.
6. I took/was taking a photograph of him while he ate/was eating an ice-cream.
7. I'm sorry I woke/was waking you. What were you dreaming/did you dream about?
8. What did you do/were you doing when I phoned/was phoning you last night? There was no reply.
9. Two burglars broke into the house while we watched/were watching television.
10. I found my lost key when I looked for/was looking for my passport.
11. I was having/had a beautiful dream when the alarm clock rang.
12. When I woke up, it snowed/was snowing. I remembered that Sam was coming/came for lunch and got up quickly.
13. It was a fine day when we left/were leaving the house that day. A light snow fell/was falling and a light wind was blowing/blew from the south-west. We were pleased that it wasn't raining/didn't rain.
14. We were driving/drove down the hill when a strange object appeared/was appearing in the sky.
15. We looked/were looking at it attentively but nobody knew/was knowing what it was.

**Ex. 36 Put the verbs in brackets into the simple past or the past continuous tense:**

1 I lit the fire at 6.00 and it (burn) brightly when Tom came in at 7.00. 2 When I arrived the lecture had already started and the professor (write) on the overhead projector. 3 I (make) a cake when the light went out. I had to finish it in the dark. 4 I didn't want to meet Paul so when he entered the

room I (leave). 5 Unfortunately when I arrived Ann just (leave), so we only had time for a few words. 6 He (watch) TV when the phone rang. Very unwillingly he (turn) down the sound and (go) to answer it. 7 He was very polite. Whenever his wife entered the room he (stand) up. 8 The admiral (play) bowls when he received news of the invasion. He (insist) on finishing the game. 9 My dog (walk) along quietly when Mr Pitt's Pekinese attacked him. 10 When I arrived she (have) lunch. She apologized for starting without me but said that she always (lunch) at 12.30. 11 He always (wear) a raincoat and (carry) an umbrella when he walked to the office. 12 What you (think) of his last book? - I (like) it very much. 13 I (share) a flat with him when we were students. He always (complain) about my untidiness. 14 He suddenly (realize) that he (travel) in the wrong direction. 15 He (play) the guitar outside her house when someone opened the window and (throw) out a bucket of water. 16 I just (open) the letter when the wind (blow) it out of my hand. 17 The burglar (open) the safe when he (hear) footsteps. He immediately (put) out his torch and (crawl) under the bed. 18 When I (look) for my passport I (find) this old photograph. 19 You looked very busy when I (see) you last night. What you (do)? 20 The boys (play) cards when they (hear) their father's step. They immediately (hide) the cards and (take) out their lesson books. 21 He (clean) his gun when it accidentally (go) off and (kill) him. 22 He (not allow) us to go out in the boat yesterday as a strong wind (blow). 23 As I (cross) the road I (step) on a banana skin and (fall) heavily. 24 I still (lie) on the road when I (see) a lorry approaching. 25 Luckily the driver (see) me and (stop) the lorry in time. 26 How you (damage) your car so badly? - I (run) into a lamp-post yesterday. - I suppose you (drive) too quickly or were not looking where you (go). 27 As he (get) into the bus it (start) suddenly and he (fall) backwards on to the road. 28 I (call) Paul at 7.00 but it wasn't necessary because he already (get) up. 29 When he (mend) the fuse he (get) a very bad shock. 30 When I (hear) his knock I (go) to the door and (open) it, but I (not recognize) him at first because I (not wear) my glasses. 31 When I came in they (sit) round the fire. Mr Pitt (do) a crossword puzzle, Mrs Pitt (knit), the others (read). Mrs Pitt (smile) at me and (say), 'Come and sit down.' 32 While the guests (dance) thieves (break) into the house and (steal) a lot of fur coats. 33 The next day, as they (know) that the police (look) for them, they (hide) the coats in a wood and (go) off in different directions. 34 She was very extravagant. She always (buy) herself new clothes. 35 Her mother often (tell) her that she (spend) too much money but she never (listen). 36 Whenever the drummer (begin) practising, the people in the next flat (bang) on the wall.

**Ex. 37 Use the Past Indefinite or the Past Continuous in the following sentences containing as-clauses and while-clauses:**

1. They (to talk) little as they (to drive) home. 2. As they (to drink) coffee, Ted (to say): "Now tell me about yourself." 3. She (to sing) softly as she (to beat) the eggs. 4. As the sun (to disappear), a fresh breeze (to stir) the curtains at the window. 5. His steps (to slow) down as he (to mount) the stairs. 6. He (to come) forward as we (to climb) out of the car and (to hold) his hand to my father. 7. Bernard (to call) up as I (to prepare) to leave the office. 8. He (to give) his father an anxious look as he (to enter). 9. She (to watch) him as he (to walk) to a chair across the room. 10. He (to look) up as Eric (to come) in. 11. Her husband (to stop) her just as she (to get) into the car. 12. While he (to stand) irresolute, the door (to open) and his brother (to come) out. 13. He (to listen) gravely while I (to complain) about my reading.

**Ex. 38 Put the verbs in brackets into the simple past or past continuous tense:**

1 Mr Smith never (wake) up in time in the mornings and always (get) into trouble for being late; so one day he (go) to town and (buy) an alarm clock. 2 To get home he (have to) go through a field where a bad-tempered bull usually (graze). 3 This bull normally (not chase) people unless something (make) him angry. Unfortunately, as Mr Smith (cross) the field, his alarm clock (go) off. 4 This (annoy) the bull, who immediately (begin) to chase Mr Smith. 5 Mr Smith (carry) an open umbrella as it (rain) slightly. He (throw) the umbrella to the ground and (run) away as fast as he could. 6 The bull (stop) and (begin) to attack the umbrella. While he (do) this Mr Smith escaped. 7 When he (awake) she (sit) by the window. She (look) at something in the street, but when he (call) her she (turn) and (smile) at him. 8 Why you (interrupt) me just now? I (have) a very interesting conversation with Mr Pitt. 9 The murderer (carry) the corpse down the stairs when he (hear) a knock on the door. 10 When I (look) through your books I (notice) that you have a copy of Murder in the Cathedral. 11 As they (walk) along the road they (hear) a car coming from behind them. Tom (turn) round and (hold) up his hand. The car (stop). 12 When I (arrive) at the station Mary (wait) for me. She (wear) a blue dress and (look) very pretty. As soon as she (see) me she (wave) and (shout) something, but I couldn't hear what she (say) because everybody (make) such a noise. 13 The prisoner (escape) by climbing the wall of the garden where he (work). He (wear) blue overalls and black shoes. 14 She said that the car (travel) at 40 k.p.h. when it (begin) to skid. 15 She said that she (not

like) her present flat and (try) to find another. 16 While he (make) his speech the minister suddenly (feel) faint. But someone (bring) him a glass of water and after a few minutes he (be able) to continue. 17 When I (see) him he (paint) a portrait of his wife. - You (like) it? - He only just (start) when I (see) it, so I couldn't judge. 18 I (take) my friend to a murder trial the other day. - Who (be) tried?- A man called Bill Sykes. - Was he acquitted? - I don't know. They still (listen) to the evidence when we (leave). 19 I (be) sorry that I (have to) leave the party early, because I (enjoy) myself. 20 As we (come) here a policeman (stop) us. He (say) that he (look) for some stolen property and (ask) if he could search the car. 21 I (see) you yesterday from the bus. Why you (use) a stick? - I (use) a stick because I had hurt my leg that morning falling off a horse. - Whose horse you (ride)? 22 The floor was covered with balls of wool. Obviously Mrs Pitt (knit) something. 23 Ann said that she (be) on holiday. I (say) that I (hope) that she (enjoy) herself. 24 While he (water) the flowers it (begin) to rain. He (put) up his umbrella and (go) on watering. 25 I just (write) a cheque when I (remember) that I (have) nothing in the bank. 26 I (find) this ring as I (dig) in the garden. It looks very old. I wonder who it (belong) to? 27 When I last (see) her she (hurry) along the road to the station. I (ask) her where she (go) and she (say), 'London', but I don't think she (speak) the truth because there (not be) any train for London at that time. 28 The tailor said, 'Your suit will be ready on Monday.' But when I (call) on Monday he still (work) on it. 29 The teacher (come) into the classroom unusually early and one of the boys, who (smoke) a cigarette, (have) no time to put it out. So he (throw) it into the desk and (hope) for the best. 30 A little later the teacher (notice) that smoke (rise) from this desk. 'You (smoke) when I (come) in?' he (ask). 31 While I (swim) someone (steal) my clothes and I (have to) walk home in my swimsuit. 32 The men (say) that they (work) on the road outside my house and that they (want) some water to make tea. 33 He (say) that he (build) himself a house and that he (think) it would be ready in two years. 34 At 3 a.m. Mrs Pitt (wake) her husband and (say) that she (think) that someone (try) to get into the house. 35 Why you (lend) him that book? I still (read) it. - I'm sorry. I (not know) that you still (read) it. 36 I (come) in very late last night and unfortunately the dog (wake) up and (start) to bark. This (wake) my mother who (come) to the top of the stairs and (say), 'Who is there?' I (say). It is me,' but she (not hear) me because the dog (bark) so loudly, so she (go) back to her room and (telephone) the police.

**Ex. 39 Open the brackets using the Past Indefinite, the Past**

### **Continuous or the Present Continuous:**

New York. May 4. There (be) a bank robbery in the downtown financial district. Just before closing time a man (enter) the Wall Street branch of Chase Manhattan Bank. He (carry) a shotgun and (wear) a nylon stocking over his head. There (be) only a few customers in the bank at the time. He (make) them lie on the floor and (force) a teller to put money into a sack. As he (leave), a security guard (try) to ring the alarm. The robber (shoot) him and the guard is now in hospital. Surgeons (try) to save his life. Last night the police (arrest) a man on. The police (interrogate) the man who was arrested last night.

### **Ex. 40 Put the verbs in brackets into the simple past or past continuous:**

1 I (walk) along Piccadilly when I (realize) that a man with a ginger beard, whom I had seen three times already that afternoon, (follow) me. 2 To make quite sure, I (walk) on quickly, (turn) right, then left and (stop) suddenly at a shop window. 3 In a few minutes the man with the beard (appear) and (stop) at another shop window. 4 I (go) on. 5 Whenever I (stop) he (stop), and whenever I (look) round he (be) still there. 6 He (look) a very respectable type and (wear) very conventional clothes and I (wonder) if he was a policeman or a private detective. 7 I (decide) to try and shake him off. 8 A 74 bus (stand) at the bus stop just beside me. 9 Then the conductor (come) downstairs and (ring) the bell; just as the bus (move) off, I (jump) on it. 10 The man with the beard (miss) the bus but (get) into another 74, which (follow) the first. 11 Both buses (crawl) very slowly along Knightsbridge. 12 Every time the buses (pull) up at a stop, the man (look) out anxiously to see if I (get) off. 13 Finally, at some traffic lights, he (change) buses and (get) into mine. 14 At Gloucester Road Underground, I (leave) the bus and (buy) a ticket at a ticket machine. 15 As I (stand) on the platform waiting for a Circle Line train, my pursuer (come) down the stairs. 16 He (carry) a newspaper and when we (get) into the same compartment, he (sit) in one corner reading it, and I (read) the advertisements. 17 He (look) over the top of the newspaper at every station to see if I (get) out. 18 I (become) rather tired of being shadowed like this, so finally I (go) and (sit) beside the man and (ask) him why he (follow) me. 19 At first he (say) he (not follow) me at all but when I (threaten) to knock him down, he (admit) that he was. 20 Then he (tell) me he (be) a writer of detective stories and (try) to see if it was difficult to follow someone unseen. 21 I (tell) him he hadn't been unseen because I had noticed him in Piccadilly and I (advise) him to shave off his ginger beard if he (not want)



his victim to know he (be) followed.

**Ex. 41 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense: simple past or past continuous:**

1 He (sit) on the bank fishing when he (see) a man's hat floating down the river. It (seem) strangely familiar. 2 It (snow) heavily when he (wake) up. He (remember) that Jack (come) for lunch and (decide) to go down to the station to meet him in case he (lose) his way in the snowy lanes. 3 When I (reach) the street I (realize) that I (not know) the number of Tom's house. I (wonder) what to do about it when Tom himself (tap) me on the shoulder. 4 As the goalkeeper (run) forward to seize the ball a bottle (strike) him on the shoulder. 5 I (look) through the classroom window. A geometry lesson (go) on. The teacher (draw) diagrams on the blackboard. 6 Most of the boys (listen) to the teacher but a few (whisper) to each other, and Tom (read) a history book. Tom (hate) mathematics; he always (read) history during his mathematics lesson. 7 Everyone (read) quietly when suddenly the door (burst) open and a complete stranger (rush) in. 8 I (go) to Jack's house but (not find) him in. His mother (say) that she (not know) what he (do) but (think) he probably (play) football. 9 This used to be a station and all the London trains (stop) here. But two years ago they (close) the station and (give) us a bus service instead. 10 She (promise) not to report me to the police but ten minutes later I (see) her talking with a policeman and from the expression on his face I am sure she (tell) him all about it. 11 I (pick) up the receiver and (dial) a number. To my surprise I (find) myself listening to an extraordinary conversation. Two men (plan) to kidnap the Prime Minister. 12 I (meet) Paul at the university. We (be) both in the same year. He (study) law, but he (not be) very interested in it and (spend) most of his time practising the flute. 13 The train just (start) when the door (open) and two panting passengers (leap) in. 14 'What you (do) between 9.00 and 10.00 yesterday?' (say) the detective. I (clean) my house,' said Mrs Jones. I always clean my house on Saturday mornings.' 15 My neighbour (look) in last night and (say) that he (leave) the district and (go) to Yorkshire, to a new job. I (say) that I (be) very sorry that he (go), and (tell) him to write to me from Yorkshire and tell me how he (get) on. 16 They (build) that bridge when I (be) here last year. They haven't finished it yet. 17 The dentist's waiting room was full of people. Some (read) magazines, others just (turn) over the pages. A woman (knit); a child (play) with a toy car. Suddenly the door (open) and the nurse (say), 'Next, please.' 18 The house next to yours (be) full of policemen and police dogs yesterday. - What they (do)? - I (hear) that they (look) for drugs. - They

(find) any? - Yes, I believe one of the dogs (discover) some cannabis. 19 Peter (tell) me yesterday that he (make) his own £5 notes. - Don't believe him. He just (pull) your leg. 20 A traffic warden just (stick) a parking ticket to my windscreen when I (come) back to the car. I (try) to persuade him to tear it up but he (refuse). 21 Ann works in the branch where the big robbery (take) place. - She actually (work) there at the time of the raid? 22 When Ann (say) that she (come) to see me the next day, I (wonder) what flowers she would bring. She always brings flowers. 23 While I (wonder) whether to buy the dress or not, someone else (come) and (buy) it. 24 He always (borrow) from me (he borrowed more often than was reasonable) but when I once (ask) him to lend me something, he (say) he (not have) got it before he even (know) what I (want) to borrow. 25 I (go) home on foot and all the time I (have) the impression that I (be) followed (passive). But though I (turn) round several times, I never (see) anybody. 26 I (bump) into Tom yesterday. I (ask) him to join us for lunch tomorrow but he (say) he (have) (had arranged to have) lunch with Ann. 27 My dog (attack) the postman as he (put) the letters into the letter box. The man (thrust) a large envelope into the dog's mouth and of course he (tear) it. Unfortunately the letter (contain) my diploma. I (patch) the diploma up with Sellotape but it still looks a bit odd. 28 How you (break) your leg? - I (fall) off a ladder when I (put) up curtains. The worst of it (be) that it (be) just before the holidays and I (go) away. (had planned to go away) - 29 So you (not go) away? - No, of course not. I (cancel) my bookings and (spend) the holiday hobbling about at home. 30 The curtain just (rise) when somebody at the back of the theatre (shout) 'Fire!' The audience (look) round nervously. 31 As it (rain) the children (play) in the sitting room. Tom was there too. He (try) to write a letter but he (not get on) very well because the children (keep) asking him questions. 32 What you (do) when the doorbell (ring)? - I (make) a cake. - And what you (do) when you (hear) the bell? - I (go) to answer it of course. But when I (open) the door there (be) nobody there. 33 A few minutes later the bell (ring) again and this time I (find) a man in a peaked cap who (say) he (make) a survey. 34 I (say), '(Be) it you who (ring) this bell a minute ago?' 'No,' he (answer), 'but when I (talk) to your neighbour I (see) a man standing at your door. I think he (go) round to the back of your house.' 35 We (not get) much sleep last night because the people next door (have) a noisy party. I (ring) up the landlord and (say) that his tenants (make) too much noise. He (point out) that it (be) Saturday and that people often (have) parties on Saturday nights. I (say) that the people in his house always (have) parties, (had too many parties) 36 What you (do) before you (get) this job? - I (work) for Brown and Company. -

And how long you (stay) with them? - I (stay) for about six months. I (leave) because they always (go) on strike. It (become) quite monotonous.

**Ex. 42 Translate the sentences using the Past Indefinite or the Past Continuous:**

1. Когда я вошел в зал, студенты все еще обсуждали первый доклад. 2. Поезд приближался к станции. По перрону бежали дети с цветами. 3. Пассажиры так и не увидели Байкал. Когда поезд проезжал Байкал, была ночь. 4. Охотники замолчали. Красивый олень медленно приближался к ним. 5. Вдруг, когда уже не оставалось никакой надежды на спасение, люди на тонущем корабле увидели дым на горизонте. Какой-то пароход направлялся им на помощь. 6. Поезд набирал скорость, когда он вскочил в вагон. 7. Машинистка печатала доклад, когда в комнату вошла секретарь и положила на стол еще какие-то бумаги. 8. Иванов писал свою знаменитую картину двадцать лет. 9. Пока директор вел беседу с иностранными представителями, секретарь сортировала утреннюю почту. 10. В то время как он пробирался через толпу, он услышал, как кто-то его позвал.

## **Unit 7 The Present Perfect Tense**

### **Formation**

The present perfect tense is formed with the present tense of have + the past participle:

Affirmative: *I've done my homework.*

Negative: *I haven't done my homework.*

Interrogative: *Have you done your homework?*

Negative interrogative: *has he not worked?*

### **Main uses**

The present perfect tense is used to express:

**1** A finished action that has a **result** or a **consequence** in the present, the **time of the action is not given**:

*I've lost my key* (=I haven't got it now - result). *I can't open the door.* (consequence now).

*I've baked a cake. You may taste it.*

*I have forgotten her name! (I don't remember it now)*

**Note!**

Though the action expressed in the Present Perfect is regarded as already accomplished, it belongs to the present-time sphere and is treated as a **present action**. It becomes obvious from the periphrasis:

*I've heard the doctor's opinion* → I know the doctor's opinion.

*She's gone off to the woods* → She is in the woods.

**Note** the use of the **Past Indefinite** with **just now**.

*I told you just now I had never had time for much fun.*

**2** With **just, already, yet, so far** etc. to express a recently completed action:

*He has just gone out. (He went out a few minutes ago.)*

*There have been some changes lately/recently.*

*He's had a lot of bad luck lately/recently.*

**Lately** is less usual with the affirmative, except for actions covering periods of time

**Recently**, used with a **simple past tense**, means 'a short time ago':

*He left recently* = He left a short time ago.

**3** To give **news** of recent events or to give **new information**:

**a)** The present perfect is often used in newspapers and broadcasts to introduce an action which will then be described in the simple past tense.

*There has been an explosion at Attenborough castle.*

**Note!**

The past tense will normally be used in the second sentence:

*Two prisoners **have escaped** from Dartmoor. They **used** a ladder which had been left behind by some workmen, **climbed** a twenty-foot wall and **got away** in a stolen car.*

*There has been a plane crash near Bristol. The witnesses say that there was an explosion as the aircraft **was taking off**.*

**b)** The present perfect is often used in letters:

*I am sorry I haven't written before but I 've been very busy lately as Tom has been away.*

*We have carefully considered the report which you sent us on 26 April, and have decided to take the following action.*

**c)** When we report that someone has recently invented, discovered, produced, written something:

*Scientists have discovered a new physical phenomena.*

## Compare:

*Chinese craftsmen invented both paper and printing.* (distant past, past simple is used).

**d)** Present Perfect may also be used to sum up a situation.

*"You've so often been helpful in the past." "I've tried," said Joseph.*

*"Agatha has told me everything. How cleverly you have both kept your secret,"*

**4** For past actions with a word or phrase denoting an incomplete period of time: **today, this morning/week/month/year** etc.:

(at 11 a.m.) *Tom has rung up three times this morning already.*

(morning ends about one o'clock) :

(at 2 p.m.) *Tom rang up three times this morning.*

Similarly, this afternoon will end at about five o'clock:

(at 4 p.m.) *I haven't seen Tom this afternoon.*

(at 6 p.m.) *I didn't see Tom this afternoon*

**5** To express personal experience with **ever, never, so far, always, occasionally, often, several times in my life, up to now** etc. or to say that an action or event **has been repeated** a number of times up to now:

*I've never ridden a horse in my life.*

*I've often wished I could read music*

*ANN: Have you ever fallen off a horse?*

*TOM: Yes, I've fallen off quite often/occasionally.*

### Note:

In this situation we use the present perfect to describe an action that **can still happen**, or could be repeated in the present. So, if Tom's riding days are over, we would have:

*ANN: Did you ever fall off a horse? (past tense)*

*TOM: Yes, I did occasionally/frequently*

**Similarly**, 'I have seen wolves in that forest' implies that it is still possible to see them and 'John Smith has written a number of short stories' implies that John Smith is still alive and can write more .

If, however, the wolves have been killed off and John Smith is dead we would say: *I saw wolves in that forest once/several times* or *I used to see wolves here. John Smith wrote a number of short stories.*

**6** The present perfect can be used with **since**:

**a) since + a point in time:**

*She has been here since six o'clock, (and is still here)*

*We've been friends since our schooldays.*

**Note** that there is a difference between **last** and **the last**.

**Compare:**

*I have been here since last week (month, year etc.)*

*I have been here for the last week.*

**b) since, adverb**

*He had a bad fall last year and has been off work ever since (adverb)*

**c) since + clause,**

*I've worked here since I left school*

*She has seemed so much better since you started the injections.*

**Note!**

If two parallel actions began at the same time in the past and continue into the present, the Present Perfect is used in both clauses,

*I've loved you since I've known you.*

**Compare:**

*He has been reading since he came.*

*He has been reading since he has been working in the library.*

In the second example both actions began at the same time in the past and continue into the moment of speaking.

**d) it is - period + since + past or perfect tense**

*It is three years since I (last) saw Bill*

*or It is three years since I have seen Bill*

*or I last saw Bill three years ago*

*or / haven't seen Bill for three years.*

*It is two years since he left the country.*

This, however, is replaceable only by: *He left the country two years ago.*

**Note!** This construction can be used in the past:

*He invited me to go riding with him. But it was two years since I had ridden a horse.*

**7** The present perfect can be used with **for, all + time references: all day/night/week, these three years**, etc. when we talk about how long an existing situation has lasted:

**Compare:**

*He **has been** in the army for two years* (He is still in the army).

*He **was** in the army for two years.* (He is not in the army now).

*We **have lived** in London for ten years,* (and still live there)

*We **lived** there for ten years,* (but we don't live there now)

So, if the period of duration belongs to the past time, the Past Indefinite should be used:

*She looked at him for a long time and then shrugged.*

*We marched all night and all today. We arrived only an hour ago.*

**Note:**

**for** can sometimes be omitted, especially after **be, live** and **wait**:

*We've been here an hour/two days.*

**8** The present perfect is used in questions/answers such as:

*How long have you been here? - I've been here six months*

They will normally be followed by general inquiries in the present perfect about actions occurring within the period mentioned, because the action of staying, being etc., is not yet finished:

*Have you been to the zoo/the theatre/the museums?*

*Have you found a job/met many people?*

The answers will be in the same tense if no time is mentioned, otherwise they will be in the simple past tense:

*Yes, I have (been to the zoo etc.) or Yes, I went there last week.*

**Note** the following examples:

*"Are you married?" "Yes." "How long have you been married?"*

*"Are you married?" "No. I'm divorced." "How long were you married?"*

*Have you been to Spain? - Yes, I have. - How long did you stay there?(You are not in Spain now)*

*Where have you been? - I've been to the cinema. - What did you see?/What was the film? - (I saw) 'Amadeus'. -Did you like it?*

*HUSBAND: Where have you been?*

*WIFE: I've been at the sales.*

*HUSBAND: What have you bought?/What did you buy?*

*WIFE: / have bought/I bought you some yellow pyjamas.*

*HUSBAND: Why did you buy yellow? I hate yellow.:*

**9** Note also structures: **This is the first time... It is the first/ second/ the only** etc. :

*This is the best wine I have ever drunk.*

*This is the worst book I have ever read.*

*It is only the second time he has been in the canoe.*

*This is the only book he has written*

**10** Recent actions with the verbs of **knowing, believing and understanding** (except **to think, to wonder**) cannot be used in the present perfect except as it is shown in the examples:

*I've known him for a long time.*

*We have always believed that this is impossible.*

*I have sometimes thought that I should have emigrated.*

*I have often wondered why he didn't marry her.*

So, recent action must be expressed by the simple past:

*Did you know that he was going to get married?*

*Hello! I didn't know you were in London. How long have you been there?*

**11** Present Perfect can be used to express a future action after the conjunctions **when, before, after, as soon as, till** and **until**. It shows that the action of the subordinate clause will be accomplished before the action of the principal clause

*As soon as we have had some tea, Ann, we'll go to inspect your house.*

*I'll take you back in my car but not till I've made you some coffee.*

Sometimes the Present Indefinite is found in this type of clauses in the same meaning. The choice of the form depends on the lexical meaning of the verb. With durative verbs the Present Perfect is necessary:

*When you have had your tea, we'll see about it.*

With terminative verbs the use of both forms is possible,

*He says when he retires he'll grow roses.*

*Mother will stay at home until we return.*

**12** With comment/ report verbs or phrases (guess, reckon, suppose, imagine etc.):

*Do you suppose they have forgotten about the meeting?*

## **Practice**

**Ex. 43 Explain the use of Present Perfect in the following sentences:**

1. Oliver came shyly up to him. "Sir, I've written a poem." "Good," said the headmaster. "May I see it?" 2. "Come on, ladies," he shouted, "there's nothing to be afraid of. The mice have left the room." 3. He thinks it's pure nerves and he's given me pills. 4. "Your hands are probably soiled. Go and wash them." "I have washed them." 5. Sam, what's come over you? You make me sad talking like this. 6. "Do you know the man?" "I've met him." 7. "Where is Gladys?" "I've just had a message. Her aunt's had a stroke and she's had to go down to Somerset." 8. "Well, it's very nice to see you anyway. I've been lonely." 9. "I don't know if any of you are interested," he said, "but the town has fallen." 10. "Have you brought



sandwiches?" "No." "I don't know where I'll get lunch." 11. "You look a bit shaken. Are you all right?" "It's been a pretty awful day, that's all." 12. I don't know how often I've told you that I don't believe in this. 13. I've tried to be good. 14. As they saw off their last guest, he said to his wife: "I think everything has gone off fairly well, don't you?" "Everything has been perfect," she declared. 15. "What do you know about the life in Quebec?" "Quite a lot. We have had letters from my uncle describing it." 16. "Does your little daughter miss her nurse?" "No. She has forgotten her." 17. "Are you keen on sailing?" "I have never done any." 18. "You know, I'm thinking of writing my memoirs," she said, "I've had an adventurous life." 19. "Well, after all," she said, "he knows he has been horrid to you and he is trying to make up for it." 20. "Hallo, Mum and Dad," he called out. "Are you too busy to see what I've caught!" 21. "Have you heard Uncle Finch play?" "I'm sorry to say, no." 22. Doctor Diver, my daughter isn't right in the head. I've had lots of specialists and nurses for her and she's taken a couple of rest cures but the thing has grown too big for me and I've been strongly recommended to come to you.

**Ex. 44 Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect tense. Explain why the perfect tense is used:**

1 Where you (be)? - I (be) to the dentist. 2 You (have) breakfast? - Yes, I... 3 The post (come)? - Yes, it . . . 4 You (see) my watch anywhere? - No, I'm afraid I . . . 5 Someone (wind) the clock? - Yes, Tom . . . 6 I (not finish) my letter yet. 7 He just (go) out. 8 Someone (take) my bicycle. 9 The phone (stop) ringing. 10 You (hear) from her lately? - No, I... 11 I just (wash) that floor. 12 The cat (steal) the fish. 13 You (explain) the exercise? - Yes, I... 14 There aren't any buses because the drivers (go) on strike. 15 You (have) enough to eat? - Yes, I (have) plenty, thank you. 16 Charles (pass) his exam? - Yes, he... 17 How many bottles the milkman (leave)? - He (leave) six. 18 I (live) here for ten years. 19 How long you (know) Mr Pitt? - I (know) him for ten years. 20 Would you like some coffee? I just (make) some. 21 Mary (water) the tomatoes? - Yes, I think she . . . 22 You (not make) a mistake? - No, I'm sure I . . . 23 Why you (not mend) the fuse? - I (not have) time. 24 You (dive) from the ten-metre board yet? - No, I... 25 You ever (leave) a restaurant without paying the bill? - No, I... 26 I (ask) him to dinner several times. 27 He always (refuse). 28 You ever (ride) a camel? 29 I (buy) a new carpet. Come and look at it. 30 He (post) the letter? 31 Why he (not finish)? He (have) plenty of time. 32 I often (see) him but I never (speak) to him. 33 You ever (eat) caviar? - No, I... 34 We just (hear) the most extraordinary news. 35 The

police (recapture) the prisoners who escaped yesterday. 36 I (not pay) the telephone bill yet.

**Ex. 45 Complete the sentence:**

a) Have you been to the bank today?

In pairs prepare four or five similar questions using the present perfect. For variety, use a different time adverb, and a different verb, in each question.

b) suggest 'follow-up' questions for more information, switch to the past simple tense to ask for the details:

e.g. Have you read any books this month?

How many books have you read?

Which books did you read?

Did you like them?

What were they about?

Why did you read them?

**Ex. 46 Explain the use of Present Perfect in the following sentences:**

1. I'm tidying up for tomorrow. When I've finished this I'll go and put the child to bed. 2. As soon as we have had some tea, John, we shall go to inspect your garden. 3. I said, "Well, don't take him away until I've had a chance to speak to him." 4. After we've done all the packing it will be nice to have a light meal. 5. I shall probably bore you to death by the time I've finished talking about myself. 6. tell you flatly that unless something has been done about your brother I won't go to that house. 7. With a shrug she said: "Their affair will fade into nothing before he's been here a week."

**Ex. 47 Use the Present Perfect or the Present Indefinite in the following clauses of time referring to the future:**

1. All right. I'll come down when I (to put) on a fresh collar. 2. When he (to be) off duty he'll go there. 3. "I must know where they are and I shall not rest till I (to see) them again," he thought. 4. "No more," she said to the dog, "but when I (to finish) you may have the bone." 5. Go on with your picture. We'll have a look at it when we (to return) from the party. 6. "I'll hand the book over when I (to read) it," he said. 7. "Has he gone?" she asked as soon as her sister entered. "No. He refuses to go till he (to see) you." I (not to develop) any new virtue. And what (to puzzle) me is why everybody (to want) me now. Surely they (not to want) me for myself but for something that (to be) outside me. It is for the recognition I (to receive). Then again for the money I (to earn)." "You (to break) my heart," she sobbed. "You (to know) I (to love) you." "If you (to love) me," he said

gently, "then why your love (to be) weak enough to deny me?" "Forget and forgive," she cried. "I (to love) you all the time." "Oh, you (to do) nothing that (to require) forgiveness," he said impatiently. They (to sit) in silence for a long time. He (to know), now, that he had not really loved her. Ruth suddenly (to begin) to speak. "I know that much of what you (to say) is so, I (not to love) you well enough. In the last ten minutes I (to learn) much. I (to learn) to love better." "It's too late," he said. "I (to be) a sick man. It is my soul. I (to care) for nothing. Something (to go) out of me." Martin (to lean) his head back and (to close) his eyes. He (to forget) the presence of Ruth. He (to be) brought back to himself by the rattle of the door knob. Ruth (to try) to open the door. "Oh, forgive me," he cried, rising to his feet. "I (to forget) you (to be) here. I'll take you home."

## Unit 8 The Present Perfect Continuous Tense

### Formation

This tense is formed by the present perfect of the verb to be + the present participle:

Affirmative: *I have been working, he has been working* etc.

Negative: *I have not/haven't been working* etc.

Interrogative: *have I been working?* etc.

Negative interrogative: *have I not/haven't I been working?*

### Main uses

**1** To talk about actions, which started in the past and are still going on (generally with **since, for, these two days, all morning** etc.):

*I've been waiting for an hour.*

*The competition has been running every year since 1980.*

#### Note!

Present perfect continuous is not used in the negative form:

*I haven't watered the flowers since Monday.*

The Present Perfect Continuous is also found in negative sentences if the negation is **partial**: it does not refer to the action itself but to the circumstances attending the action.

*I haven't been sleeping well for the last two days* (which means that I have been sleeping but my sleep has not been sound enough)

*I'm sorry I'm late. I hope you have not been waiting for me.* (I know that

you have been waiting but I hope it is not for me)

**2** To express an action (quite a long action) which began in the past and has recently or just stopped, a recently finished activity, which **explains** or **gives reasons** for the state of things at the present:

*You are out of breath. Have you been running?*

*Why are your clothes so dirty? What have you been doing?*

*She said: "I've been talking to your boy-friend, Adeline, and I like him."*

*Don't tell your mother what I've been saying.*

**3** The perfect progressive forms are often used to show that an action is (or was) frequently repeated:

*Tom has been drinking a lot for the last two months.*

*Jim has been phoning Jenny every night for the past week*

**4** To refer to an uncompleted activity:

*I've been cleaning the house but I still haven't finished.*

The difference between an activity still in progress and one that has definitely been completed is marked by context and by the verbs we use.

The **simple** and **progressive forms** are **not** interchangeable here

*I've been painting this room*

*I've painted this room*

In the first example, the activity is uncompleted. In the second example, the job is definitely finished.

**5** The present perfect continuous is often used with an emotional coloring (emphasizing the duration of the event):

*I suppose you have been telling lies again.*

**Note!**

A number of verbs can't normally be used in the continuous tense forms, but some of these can be used in this form in certain cases (in colloquial English); especially the verbs **to want** and **to wish**.

**6** The present perfect continuous can suggest that the action is temporary:

**Compare:**

*We've been subscribing to one of the satellite TV companies (we may change)*

*We subscribe to one of the satellite TV companies (unlikely to change)*

With **lately** or **recently** we use the present perfect continuous to talk about new developments which may be temporary:

*Helen has been spending a lot of time at the club lately* (she didn't use to)

## Practice

**Ex. 48 Explain the use of the Present Perfect Continuous in the following sentences:**

1. "I must say, William, you're looking distinctly pale, you know." "Am I?" "I fear you've been overworking yourself lately. You don't get out of doors enough." 2. You bet I'm burning myself out. I've been doing it for so many years now — and who cares? 3. Your wife's been telling me that you've not been sleeping very well lately. I'm sorry to hear that. 4. "Mother, what do you suppose you look like?" "Oh, I know. But I've been cleaning the stairs." 5. Rosemary, I've been thinking. What we need is something different. 6. "I was the only boy in our school that had asthma," said the fat boy with a touch of pride. "And I've been wearing specs since I was three." 7. I don't want anyone to know I've been crying. 8. Oh, I am not really hot. It's just that I've been running. 9. Oh, dear, has the baby been howling ever since we left? 10. "Oh, it's grand to have you home again," he said. "I've been saving up things to tell you but now they've gone right out of my head and I can only be glad."

**Ex. 49 Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect continuous tense:**

1 I (make) cakes. That is why my hands are all covered with flour. 2 Her phone (ring) for ten minutes. I wonder why she doesn't answer it. 3 He (overwork). That is why he looks so tired. 4 There is sawdust in your hair. - I'm not surprised. I (cut) down a tree. 5 Have you seen my bag anywhere? I (look) for it for ages. 6 What you (do)? - I (work) in the laboratory. 7 He (study) Russian for two years and doesn't even know the alphabet yet. 8 How long you (wait) for me? - I (wait) about half an hour. 9 It (rain) for two days now. There'll be a flood soon. 10 We (argue) about this for two hours now. Perhaps we should stop. 11 I (bathe). That's why my hair is all wet. 12 You (drive) all day. Let me drive now. 13 How long you (wear) glasses? 14 The petrol gauge (say) 'Empty' for quite a long time now. Don't think we should get some petrol? 15 I'm sorry for keeping you waiting. I (try) to make a telephone call Rome. 16 You (not eat) enough lately. That's why you feel irritable. 17 He (speak) for an hour now. I expect he'll soon be finished. 18 That helicopter (fly) round the house for

the last hour; do you think it's taking photographs? 19 The radio (play) since 7 a.m. I wish someone would turn it off. 20 I (shop) all day and I haven't a penny left. 21 We (live) here since 1977. 22 I'm on a diet. I (eat) nothing but bananas for the last month. 23 The children (look) forward to this holiday for months. 24 That pipe (leak) for ages. We must get it mended. 25 Tom (dig) in the garden all afternoon and I (help) him. 26 I (ask) you to mend that window for six weeks. When are you going to do it? 27 Someone (use) my bicycle. The chain's fallen off. 28 How long you (drive)? - I (drive) for ten years. 29 The trial (go) on for a long time. I wonder what the verdict will be. 30 It (snow) for three days now. The roads will be blocked if it doesn't stop soon. 31 Mary (cry)? - No, she (not cry), she (peel) onions. 32 The car (make) a very curious noise ever since it ran out of oil. 33 He walked very unsteadily up the stairs and his wife said, 'You (drink)!' 34 Your fingers are very brown. You (smoke) too much. 35 You usually know when someone (eat) garlic. 36 Ever since he came to us that man (try) to make trouble.

**Ex. 50 Use the Present Continuous or the Present Perfect Continuous in the following sentences:**

1. "There's a man sitting at the first table near the door. He (to look) at us," she said. "He is, but what of it?" "I (to meet) him everywhere of late."  
 2. Ever since my University days I (to study) the history of Russia. Now I (to read) books on the Civil War. 3. I know you (to ask) for somebody with experience on your staff. There is a doctor in our laboratory who might interest you. But he now (to finish) an experiment. 4. "I (to visit) with friends." "How long you (to stay) with your friends?" 5. The door was opened by Mrs Pitt. "Well, well, you're just in time. I (to make) some cakes. And your father (to have) break fast." 6. "Where's my daughter?" "She (to talk) to a policemen." "What's happened?" "She (to drive) without a license." 7. "I hope you (to do) well?" "Splendid. I was very sorry that you left us. We (to do) better ever since." 8. "Hello," she said. "I'm glad you (to have) lunch here. I (to want) to talk to you." 9. "We (to stay) here nearly a week." "I hope you (not to think) of leaving." 10. "The girl (to wait) to see you, doctor." "How long she (to wait)?"

**Ex. 51 Make up situations to justify the use of the Present Continuous and the Present Perfect Continuous in the following pairs of sentences:**

1. We're having a good laugh over everything. We've been having a good laugh over everything. 2. I'm doing it just this way. I've been doing it

just this way. 3. What is going on in here? What has been going on in here? 4. He is saying funny things about you. He has been saying funny things about you. 5. What are you doing? What have you been doing? 6. I'm wondering if you just dislike me. I've been wondering if you just dislike me. 7. She is accusing me of things. She has been accusing me of things. 8. He is behaving very well. He has been behaving very well.

**Ex. 52 Say what has just been happening to cause the state of things expressed in the following sentences:**

1. His clothes are wet. (to walk in the rain) 2. You look upset, (to say dreadful things about ...) 3. I'm so glad to be able to talk to someone. (to have a very dull time) 4. Why do you think I ought to give up my work? (to talk to the doctor) 5. You look excited. (to try to talk someone out of doing something) 6. He is very tired. (to overwork) 7. The streets are wet. (to rain) 8. I can't write a loving letter now. (to write too many official papers) 9. The air in the room is hazy. (to smoke a great deal)

**Ex. 53 Fill the spaces in the following sentences by using for or since:**

1 We've been fishing . . . two hours. 2 I've been working in this office . . . a month. 3 They've been living in France . . . 1970. 4 He has been in prison . . . a year. 5 I've known that . . . a long time. 6 That man has been standing there . . . six o'clock. 7 She has driven the same car . . . 1975. 8 Things have changed . . . I was a girl. 9 The kettle has been boiling . . . a quarter of an hour. 10 The central heating has been on . . . October. 11 That trunk has been in the hall . . . a year. 12 He has been very ill . . . the last month. 13 I've been using this machine . . . twelve years. 14 We've been waiting . . . half an hour. 15 Mr Pitt has been in hospital . . . his accident. 16 He hasn't spoken to me . . . the last committee meeting. 17 I have been very patient with you . . . several years. 18 They have been on strike . . . November. 19 The strike has lasted . . . six months. 20 It has been very foggy . . . early morning. 21 They have been quarrelling ever . . . they got married. 22 I've been awake . . . four o'clock. 23 I've been awake . . . a long time. 24 We've had no gas . . . the strike began. 25 I've earned my own living . . . I left school. 26 Nobody has seen him . . . last week. 27 The police have been looking for me . . . four days. 28 I haven't worn low-heeled shoes . . . I was at school. 29 He had a bad fall last week and . . . then he hasn't left the house. 30 He has been under water . . . half an hour. 31 That tree has been there . . . 2,000 years. 32 He has been Minister of Education . . . 1983. 33 I've been trying to open this door . . . forty-five

minutes. 34 He hasn't eaten anything . . . twenty-four hours. 35 We've had terrible weather . . . the last month. 36 Nobody has come to see us . . . we bought these bloodhounds.

**Ex. 54 The present perfect with for and since:**

Part I Answer the following questions as shown in the examples:

*Can you skate? (three years) Yes, but I haven't skated for three years.*

*Could you climb a rope? (I left school) Yes, I suppose I could, but I haven't climbed one since I left school.*

1 Can you play chess? (ten years) 2 Can you sing? (I came to England) 3 Could you milk a cow? (I left my father's farm) 4 Can you put up a tent? (I went camping two years ago) 5 Can you make Yorkshire pudding? (over a year) 6 Can you read Latin? (I left school) 7 Could you bath a baby? (fifteen years) 8 Could you repair a radio? (I left the army) 9 Can you ski? (my last holiday) 10 Can you read a map? (quite a long time) 11 Could you make a basket? (I was in hospital) 12 Can you sew on buttons? (I got married) 13 Can you drive a car? (over six months) 14 Could you take someone's temperature? (years) 15 Can you ride a motor cycle? (I was at the university) 16 Can you row a boat? (1977) 17 Can you paint in oils? (some time) 18 Can you type? (years and years)

Part 2 Rephrase the following sentences, using the present perfect tense with for or since:

*I last read a newspaper on June - I haven't read a newspaper since June.*

*It is two years since I saw Tom. - I haven't seen Tom for two years.*

19 It's two years since I had a puncture. 20 It's two months since he earned any money. 21 He last shaved the day before yesterday. 22 I last drank champagne at my brother's wedding. 23 It's two years since I was last in Rome. 24 I saw Tom last on his wedding day. 25 I last ate raw fish when I was in Japan. 26 It's years since Mary last spoke French. 27 It's ten weeks since I last had a good night's sleep. 28 He last paid taxes in 1970. 29 I last ate meat five years ago. (Omit ago.) 30 It's three months since the windows were cleaned. 31 It's years since I took any photographs. 32 I last watched TV on New Year's Day. 33 It's three months since he wrote to me. 34 I was last paid six months ago. (My pay is six months in arrears.) 35 The last time I was abroad was in the summer of 1978. 36 It's ten years since that house was lived in.

**Ex. 55 Translate the following into English concentrating on the use**



### of Present Perfect Continuous:

1. Когда они остались одни, она спросила: «Что здесь происходило?» 2. «А что, если я попрошу Филиппа одолжить мне денег?» — «Попробуй. Он только что с рыбалки. Это подходящий момент». 3. «Какие у тебя холодные руки, Мэри!» — «Да, я сидела у окна и проверяла тетради». 4. «А вот ты где, Том! А я все искал тебя. Там какой-то молодой человек хочет видеть тебя». 5. При строгих родителях и двух старших братьях я всегда только и слышал, как кто-нибудь говорил мне: «Филипп, тебе должно быть стыдно». 6. «Извини, что я опоздал, мама. Мне нужно было поехать в город, и я попал под дождь и промок насквозь. Я переодевался». 7. «Эй! А где же все?» — «Я сейчас спущусь, — откликнулась Долли. — Я закрывала окна». 8. Он поблагодарил сестру за подарок и сказал: «Это как раз то, что мне нужно. Все мое шерстяное белье съела моль».

## Unit 9 The difference between the Present Perfect Continuous and the Present Perfect

**1** The Present Perfect Continuous describes the action as a **continuous**, extended activity, whereas the Present Perfect looks more at the idea of **completion** and **present result**.

The continuous form does not tell us whether the action is finished or not. Although the person speaking may not be performing the action at the time of speaking, they may be going to continue doing it after speaking - the activity is not 'complete'.

*Sorry about the mess -I've been painting the house.* (focus on continuous activity)

*I've painted two rooms since lunchtime.* (focus on result).

*I think she has slept enough. -I'll wake her up.* (focus on result)

The simple form refers to a more or less '**direct**' **result**, while with the continuous form the result is usually '**indirect**', or a '**side-effect**'.

*I've washed the car. (It's very clean now.)*

*I've been washing the car. (That's why I'm wet.)*

The continuous form is often used to answer '**Why...?**' questions - in the above example, it might have been in response to the question '*Why are you wet?*'.

When '**just**' is used the result referred to is often indirect, and this form can be used if you want to make it clear that the action is complete while at the same time explaining an indirect result of the action:

*I've just washed the car, which is why I'm wet.*

**2** We often prefer the Present Perfect Continuous to talk about **more temporary** actions and situations; when we talk about **longer-lasting** or **permanent** situations we often prefer the Present Perfect:

*That man has been standing on the corner the whole day.*

*For 900 years the castle has stood on the hill above the village*

A common situation where the continuous form is used is to imply that the situation is about to change:

**Permanent situation:** *People have eaten less meat over the last 20 years*

**Temporary situation:** *People have been eating less meat recently because of the crisis.*

*I've been living here for ten years. I think it's time I moved on.*

**Note** that the normal restrictions apply to verbs that don't take continuous forms:

*I've had this car since 1987. It's time I changed it.*

**3** If we mention a **number of times** the activity or event was repeated, or **the number of things** that have been done we use the Present Perfect rather than the Present Perfect Continuous:

**Compare:**

*I've been writing letters since breakfast.*

*I've written **six** letters since breakfast.*

**4** When we want to emphasize that a situation **has changed** over a period of time up to now and may continue to change, we prefer the present perfect continuous to the present perfect:

*The pollution problem has been getting worse over the last decade.*

But if we talk about some **specific change** over a period of time, which ends now, to focus on the result of the change, we use the Present Perfect:

*Prices have decreased **by 7%**.*

**5** With some verbs naturally suggesting the idea of continuity (durative verbs) like **expect, hope, learn, lie, live, look, rain, sleep, sit, snow, stand, stay, study, teach, travel, play wait, want, work** etc. both the Present Perfect Continuous and the Present Perfect can be used with a slight difference in meaning:

*How long have you learnt English?*

*How long have you been learning English*

*I've worked here for five years.*

*I've been working here for five years.*

The first form here can be considered the '**neutral**', or normal, form. The sentence simply says how long this (your having the job, learning English) has been the case.

The second sentence, in the continuous form, would be used in slightly different situations. For example:

*Jane : You put those papers in the green filing cabinet.*

*Alan: You don't have to tell me that. - I've been working here for five years, you know!*

**6** The Present Perfect is used with the **stative** verbs and **in negative sentences** instead of the present perfect continuous with **since** and **for** to say how long something has been happening:

*I've loved her since she was a child.*

## **Practice**

**Ex. 56 Explain why Present Perfect and not the Present Perfect Continuous is used in the following sentences:**

1. Then about a year ago he disappeared and I've never heard from him since. 2. "Good evening, Mrs Elliot, you look blooming tonight." "Oh, not really, I haven't had a minute since I came in." 3. He's made nothing but trouble for years. 4. He hasn't been seen for a week. He is said to be on holidays. 5. I don't think he's changed in the thirty years I've known him. 6. I'm going to eat something. I haven't had anything since last night. 7. They heard a step behind them and turning saw Wilmott coming up to them. "Here I am!" he said. "Have you waited long?" 8. Meg said: "We haven't had lessons lately. It's too hot." 9. This is the happiest evening I've had in a long while. 10. "You are late for tea, Philip," she said. "No, I'm not late, Mumma," he returned. "I've been in for some time."

**Ex. 57 Use the Present Perfect Continuous or Present Perfect in the following sentences:**

1. I (to be) busy since we last met. 2. I'm very fond of Alice but I (not to see) much of her lately. 3. "How quickly your mood changes! You look drained." "I (to walk) around all day. I (to have) a few drinks and nothing to eat." 4. But I (to cook, to clean) and (to dig) for three days and I'm tired. 5. "I don't think your mother expects you to become an electrician." "What she (to say) to you?" "Nothing." 6. Imagine how much they (to learn) since they (to be) here. 7. "Shall we sit down or do you prefer to stand?" "I (to

sit) down in my office, so I am quite happy to stand." 8. I found him waiting downstairs at the house door to let me in. "I'm sorry," I said, "I hope you (not to stand) here long." 9. There (to be) no guests at all since I left? 10. The other chap is a man who threw up his job ten years ago and he (not to work) since. 11. "My son is not a bad boy. But he's going through a difficult phase." "He (to go) through this difficult phase for fifteen years." 12. He's an old friend. I (to know) him for ages. 13. You (to see) anything of Mary lately? 14. Do you know of any good books coming out soon? I (not to read) anything amusing for ages. 15. I know the names of everyone in the village. I (to live) here all my life. 16. "What do you suppose was wrong with the pony that he should go into the ditch?" asked Meg. "He (to go) into the ditch ever since I (to know) him," said the doctor, "and I (to know) him twenty-five years." 17. Winifred has got a young man she (to have) dates with for ages and she won't tell me anything about him.

**Ex. 58 Translate the following into English concentrating on the use of the Present Perfect and the Present Perfect Continuous:**

1. Мы с вашим братом говорили сегодня об этом деле. Поэтому я и пришел повидаться с вами. 2. «Я все думал об этой книге, — сказал он, — и пришел к заключению, что мы не можем ее напечатать». 3. «Грузовик все еще там?» — «Да. Они уже два часа работают, пытаются сдвинуть его. Но им это еще не удалось». 4. «Что ты делала, Пэт? Ты вся в земле». 5. «Ну, ты ведь слышала о Молли, да?» — «Я слышу о ней уже два года». 6. «Последнее время я замечаю в тебе какие-то изменения». 7. «Ну как ты?» — «Немного устала. Я весь день скребла стены». 8. Мальчишке нужна порка. Он уже много месяцев напрашивается на нее. 9. «Том и я, — сказала она весело, входя в комнату, — так хорошо провели время. Мы смотрели альбомы». 10. «Я очень доволен тем местом, которое выбрал. Я буду питаться ягодами и рыбой и читать все те книги, которые я давно хотел прочитать». — «А где вы возьмете их?» — «Я привез их с собой». 11. «Эта больница оказалась очень хорошей для изучения языков, — сказала девушка. — С тех пор как я здесь, я говорю по-французски с двумя докторами и по-немецки с нянями, и я набралась порядочно испанского от одного пациента. Для занятий музыкой тоже. Я практикуюсь каждый день. А последние несколько месяцев я занимаюсь на курсах по истории музыки».

**Ex. 59 Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect simple or present perfect continuous:**

Tim Bryant, a magazine journalist, is interviewing Margaret Rodwell, the founder of a successful company.

TB: So why do you think your company 1.has been, (be) so successful?

MR: Well, our products 2..... (fill) a large gap in the market and I think one of the most important things is that we 3..... (always listen) to our clients and we 4..... (act) on their comments and suggestions.

TB: And what's a typical day for you?

MR: Well, take today for example. I 5.....(interview) candidates for a marketing executive post.

TB: And how many 6..... (you/interview)?

MR: Er, I 7..... (interview) four so far. And I 8..... (talk) to clients on the phone on and off all day. I seem to spend a lot of time on the phone. I 9..... (discuss) some new ideas with them for the transportation and delivery of our products.

TB: Mm, it sounds like a very busy day.

MR: Oh, that's only part of it. I 10..... (have) two meetings, one with Union representatives and one with departmental heads. And I "11 ..... (also work) on a proposal for a new marketing strategy.

TB: And it's not two o'clock yet!

MR: No, but of course I 12.....(be) here since seven o'clock this morning.

TB: Gosh. And, I hope you don't mind my mentioning this Ms Rodwell, but some rumours 13..... (circulate) about your possible engagement to Mr Grimaldi, the banker.

MR: No, there will be no engagement, though it's true that Mr Grimaldi and I 14..... (see) each other. That's no secret.

TB: When you get the time, I suppose. And is it also true that you 15..... (learn) Russian with a view to introducing your products there?

MR: Yes, I have, but I 16..... (not learn) much yet; there's still a long way for me to go.

**Ex. 60 Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect or the present perfect continuous tense. (In some cases either could be used.)**

1 We (walk) ten kilometres. 2 We (walk) for three hours. 3 You (walk) too fast. That's why you are tired. 4 I (make) sausage rolls for the party all the morning. 5 How many you (make)? - I (make) 200. 6 That boy (eat) seven ice-creams. 7 He (not stop) eating since he arrived. 8 The driver (drink). I think someone else ought to drive. 9 I (pull) up 100 dandelions. 10 I (pull) up dandelions all day. 11 What you (do)? - We

(pick) apples. 12 How many you (pick)? - We (pick) ten basketfuls. 13 I (sleep) on every bed in this house and I don't like any of them. 14 He (sleep) since ten o'clock. It's time he woke up. 15 He (ride); that's why he is wearing breeches. 16 I (ride) all the horses in this stable. 17 What a lovely smell! - Mary (make) jam. 18 The students (work) very well this term. 19 I only (hear) from him twice since he went away. 20 I (hear) from her regularly. She is a very good correspondent. 21 I (grease) my car. That's why my hands are so dirty. 22 I (polish) this table all the morning and she isn't satisfied with it yet. 23 I (work) for him for ten years and he never once (say) 'Good morning' to me. 24 He (teach) in this school for five years. 25 I (teach) hundreds of students but I never (meet) such a hopeless class as this. 26 Why you (be) so long in the garage? - The tyres were flat; I (pump) them up. 27 I (pump) up three tyres. Would you like to do the fourth? 28 I (look) for mushrooms but I (not find) any. 29 He (cough) a lot lately. He ought to give up smoking. 30 You (hear) the news? Tom and Ann are engaged! - That's not new; I (know) it for ages! 31 I (try) to finish this letter for the last half-hour. I wish you'd go away or stop talking. - I hardly (say) anything. 32 The driver of that car (sound) his horn for the last ten minutes. 33 It (rain) for two hours and the ground is too wet to play on, so the match (be) postponed 34 He (hope) for a rise in salary for six months but he (not dare) to ask for it yet. 35 Mr Smith, you (whisper) to the student on your right for the last five minutes. You (help) him with his exam paper or he (help) you? 36 Why you (make) such a horrible noise? - I (lose) my key and I (try) to wake my wife by throwing stones at he window. - You (throw) stones at the wrong window. You live next door.

**Ex. 61 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense: present perfect simple or present perfect continuous:**

1 Peter: You (telephone) for ages. You not nearly (finish)? Jack: I (not get) through yet. I (try) to get our Paris office but the line (be) engaged all morning. 2 Ann (fail) her driving test three times because she's so bad at reversing. But she (practise) reversing for the last week and I think she (get) a bit better at it. 3 Tom: I often (wonder) why Bill left the country so suddenly. Peter: Actually, I just (find) out. 4 He (play) the bagpipes since six o'clock this morning. He only just (stop). 5 Why you (not bring) me the letters for signature? You (not type) them yet? 6 Tom (looking up absent-mindedly as Mary comes in): You (sunbathe)? Mary (crossly): Don't be ridiculous! It (rain) all day! 7 A pair of robins (build) a nest in the porch since last week. I (watch them from my window since they began. 8 The police (not find) the murderer yet, but the dead man's brother (be) in the

station all day. The police say that he (help) them with their enquiries. 9 They (pull) down most of the houses in this street, but they (not touch) the old shop at the corner yet. 10 Tom is convinced that there is gold in these hills but we (search) for six months and (not see) any sign of it. 11 I (wait) for the prices of the houses to come down before buying a house, but I think I (wait) too long and the prices are beginning to go up again. 12 Peter (be) a junior clerk for three years. Lately he (look) for a better post but so far he (not find) anything. 13 I (do) housework all morning and I (not finish) yet. - I (do) mine already. I always start at 6 a.m. 14 I just (pick) ten pounds of strawberries! I (grow) strawberries for years but I never (have) such a good crop before. 15 What you (do) with the corkscrew? The point is broken off. - I'm afraid I (use) it to make holes in this tin. 16 She just (sell) two of her own paintings. - She's lucky. I (paint) for five years and I (not sell) a single picture yet. 17 They are throwing crockery at each other in the next flat. - This (happen) before? - Well, they (have) a good many rows but this is the first time they (throw) crockery. 18 What you (do) with my typewriter? I can't find it anywhere. - Tom just (go) off with it. He says he'll bring it back when he (finish). 19 He (work) for Crow Brothers for forty years and never once (be) late. The firm just (present) him with a gold watch as a sign of their appreciation. 20 We (mend) sheets all morning but we only (do) three, and now the sewing machine (break) down so we'll be even slower with the next one. 21 George (collect) matchboxes ever since he left school. Now he (collect) so many that he doesn't know where to put them. 22 I (look) through my old photograph album. It's full of photographs of people whose names I completely (forget). I wonder what (happen) to them all. 23 It was lovely at eleven o'clock, but since then the sky (get) steadily darker and the wind (rise). I'm afraid the fine spell (come) to an end. 24 Since he became Mayor, my brother reckons that he (eat) 30 official lunches and 22 official dinners, and he (lose) count of the number of receptions and parties that he (attend). - He (put) on a lot of weight? 25 Secretary: Customers (ring) up all morning complaining about getting incorrect bills. Manager: I know; something (go) wrong with our computer. The mechanic (work) on it. I hope he (find) out what's wrong. 26 Someone (use) my umbrella! It's all wet! And it was wet yesterday and the day before! - Well, it wasn't me. I (not be) out of the house for a week! 27 I (stand) in this queue for ages. It (not move) at all in the last five minutes. I think the man in the ticket office just (shut) his window and (go) off for lunch. 28 The Town Council (consider) my application for permission to build I a garage for three months. They just (give) my neighbour permission to build one, so I hope they (decide) to let

me have one too. 29 You look exhausted! - Yes, I (play) tennis and I (not play) for years, so I'm not used to it. 30 They began widening this road three weeks ago; but the workmen (be) on strike for the last fortnight so they (not get) very far with it. 31 That man (stand) at the bus stop for the last half hour. Shall I tell him that the last bus already (go)? 32 I wonder if anything (happen) to Tom. I (wait) an hour now. He often (keep) me waiting but he never (be) quite so late as this. 33 Mrs Brown (live) next door for quite a long time now but she never (say) more than 'Good morning' to me. 34 I just (remember) that I (not pay) the rent yet. I am surprised that the landlord (not ring) me up to remind me. - It is the first time you (be) late with the rent in 25 years. He probably thinks that you (pay) and he (lose) the cheque. 35 Shop assistant: Could you give me some proof of your identity, madam? Customer: But I (shop) here for fifteen years! Shop assistant: I know, madam, but apparently the company (lose) a lot of money lately through dud cheques and they (make) new regulations which we (be told) to apply to all customers no matter how long we (know) them. 36 What you (do)? I (look) for you for ages. - I (build) a barbecue in the garden.

## Unit 10 The Present Perfect or the Past Simple

1 The present perfect can never be used with adverbs which describe finished time periods, such as **yesterday**, **five minutes ago** and **at three o'clock**. If a time adverb is used with the present perfect, it should describe a time period which is unfinished.

**Table 5**

Time Adverbs	
Unfinished Time	Finished Time
today	yesterday
this week	last week
this year	last year
this morning*	this morning*
this afternoon*	this afternoon*
this evening	-
during the last two years	during the summer
since I left school	before I saw you



-	at six o'clock
-	when I met him.
-	five minutes ago
ever	-
just	-

\* Can be finished or unfinished, depending on the time of day

*The teacher hasn't arrived yet.* (She might still arrive.)

*The teacher didn't arrive* (The class is over, he can't arrive now)

*I've spent \$20 today.* (I can still spend money.)

*I spent \$20 this morning* ('this morning' is over, I can't spend any more money 'this morning')

Also use the past simple, even with an adverb of unfinished time, if the action can no longer happen:

*I went to the shops today.* (But the shops are now closed...)

**2** Past simple is used with a definite place for an event because this may suggest a definite time:

*I left my bag **on the train**.*

*Why **didn't** you **speak** to my father yourself **on the boat**?*

*Did you see him at the theatre?* (= when you were at the theatre? You are not at the theatre now)

*I ran into her in Oxford Street.* (= when I was in Oxford Street)

*Where have you been? - I've been to the opera. - Did you enjoy it?* (you are not at the opera now)

**3** Similarly, it is the Past Indefinite that is used in questions introduced by **when**.

**When did you actually arrive?**

The Past Indefinite is also used in special questions beginning with **where** and **how** when they refer to **the past events**.

*Where is my hat? Where did I leave my hat?"*

The question *Where have you been?* can be asked of the person who has just come.

*'Hello, Mum. I'm sorry I'm late" "Where have you been?"*

In all other cases it should be *Where were you?*

*"Did the party go off nicely?" "I don't know. I wasn't there." "Where were you?"*

**Similarly:**

*Have you had a good holiday?* (You have just returned)

*Did you have a good holiday?* (Your holiday finished some time before the question)

In special questions beginning with other interrogative words (**who, what, why, what ... for** etc.), both the Present Perfect and the Past Indefinite are possible. We normally use the Simple present perfect when we are thinking about past events together with their **present results**. However we prefer a simple past when we identify the person, thing or circumstances responsible for a present situation (we focus on a **past cause**, not on a present result):

*Someone has let the cat in. Who let the cat in?*

*That's a nice picture. Did you paint it yourself?*

*How did you get this bruise?*

*Why are you crying? - Jack hit me.*

*"What **have I done** against you?" "Why can't we get on?"(present result)*

*"I know she **gave** him a good scolding." "What **did he do**?"*

*"Dorothy's gone to a garden party." "Why haven't you gone too?"(You are here now-result)*

**4 Remember that we use the present perfect to describe an action that can still happen**

*She has starred in a lot of major films. (She's still alive and acting)*

*She starred in a lot of major films. (Her acting career is finished or she's dead)*

So, the simple past tense is used for an action whose time is not given but which occurred at a moment in a period of time now terminated.

*My grandmother once saw Queen Victoria.*

*Did you ever hear Maria Callas sing?*

**5 Expectation and reality:** we use a past tense to refer to a belief that has just been shown to be true or false:

*It's not as big as I expected.*

*You are older than I thought.*

*But you promised!*

Remember the following expressions:

*Что Вы сказали?*

*What did you say?*

*Теперь я понял*

*Now I understand.*

*Я не слышал Вашего вопроса*

*I didn't hear your question.*

*Мне сказали, что он в Лондоне.*

*I'm told that he is in London.*

*Я слышал, что он в Москве.*

*I hear that he is in Moscow.*

6 You sometimes use a past tense rather than a present tense when you want to be more polite. For example, in the following pairs of sentences, the second one is more polite.

*Do you want to see me now?*

*Did you want to see me now?*

*I wonder if you can help me.*

*I was wondering if you could help me.*

## Practice

**Ex. 62 Explain the use of the Present Perfect and the Past Indefinite in the following questions:**

1. Why hasn't he let us know where he is? It simply isn't like him. 2. Why did you give your son that kind of education then? 3. "What time is it?" "Almost nine o'clock." "Damn," he swore. "Why didn't someone wake me?" 4. When did the tragedy occur? 5. "What's happened?" he thought. "How did they get here?" 6. "I'm going to see Mr Warren," she said. "He's in St Joseph's Hospital." Her father turned from the TV. "What happened to him?" "He had an accident. He says it's nothing serious." 7. Where's my hat? Where did I leave my hat? 8. "And I've got a bit of money. We could get ourselves a nice flat." "Where did you get the money from?" 9. "Miss Drake," he said later. "How long have you known Roger?" "Nearly a year. He's told me a lot about you." "What did he say?" 10. "How long were you in hospital with that wound?" she asked. 11. "Well, this is a hell of a mess you have got into. I don't wonder you are upset." "How did you find out?" 12. Then I thought of the other summer and of Laura. "How long did Laura stay there altogether?" 13. As Rosemary entered her room, her mother called to her: "Where have you been?" 14. When did she leave for a swim? 15. You seem to know a lot about your neighbours. How long have you lived here?

**Ex. 63 Explain the use of the Present Perfect and the Past Indefinite in the following sentences containing an indication of a period of time:**

1. "I hear you went to the dentist this morning." "Yes. I had three teeth filled." 2. He laughed. "My," said Peggy, very pleased, "you got off the right side of the bed this morning, didn't you?" 3. That man was here again this afternoon, asking for you. 4. "Where is my brother?" "He's not been in all afternoon." 5. At Corfu you find people playing cricket. Watching them you remember that Corfu was under British rule for fifty years and cricket, obviously, is a heritage of those days. 6. "Mr Ferrier wishes to speak to you

on the telephone, Sir," she said. "He has called up three times this morning." 7. "What's going on here?" Mel sighed: "We've had a storm for three days. It's created emergency situations." 8. "Have you seen Mary this morning?" she asked the boy as she gave him his morning milk. "No. She is sick." "How do you know?" "She didn't come out of her room." 9. "I used to know the Pimleys. But I haven't seen them for years," he said. 10. When they were strolling along the beach, Wilmott said to the doctor: "Do you know, I was surprised to hear you quote poetry this evening." 11. I was an officer in the Territorials myself for a few years. I had to give it up for health reasons. 12. I've had a rather nasty pain in my knee at times lately. It caught me this morning in a devilish fashion. 13. She drew down his head and pressed her cheek to his. "I say, your cheek is like a grater! You have not shaved today." 14. "When did she bring it here?" "She left it on the door-step today."

**Ex. 64 Use the Present Perfect or the Past Indefinite in the following sentences which contain an indication of a period of time:**

1. "Listen," he said, "my father (to fight) for four years in the last war." 2. I (to meet) your boy-friend and {to have) a long talk with him today. 3. "Don't go, Philip," said his mother. "I scarcely (to see) you today." 4. "Good morning, Mother," he said kissing the top of her head, "you (to sleep) late this morning." 5. I was at school with Alec. Then we (not to see) each other for years. 6. I (to have) coffee with a friend of yours at the Union today. 7. I'm taking my wife out tonight. She (not to have) any fun for a long time. 8. "Has Meggie eaten her tea?" "No. Not a bite. Nor dinner either." "Why, this is awful. The child (not to have) a bite all day." 9. Unsmiling she (to regard) him steadily for a long time. He then stopped walking about and looked equally steadily at her. 10. I dare say you (not to have) a night's sleep or a proper meal this week. 11. Entering her bedroom her mother said: "Pat, dear, aren't you well? Don't you think that a cup of tea would be nice? We (to have) the first strawberries this morning." 12. "You (to see) Father this afternoon?" she asked coming in from the garden. 13. You are just in time to hear a nice bit of news. Our neighbour is engaged to be married. He (to bring) me the news himself this morning. 14. "I'm sorry I'm late," he said. "Everything (to seem) to hold me up this evening."

**Ex. 65 The present perfect and the simple past:**

(a) Fill the spaces by repeating the auxiliary used in the question, putting it into the negative where necessary.

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

e.g: *Have you seen that play?*

(a) *Yes, I have.*

(b) *Yes, I (be) there last night.*

*Yes, I was there last night.*

1 Have you wound the clock?

(a) Yes, I . . .

(b) Yes, I (wind) it on Monday

2 Have you ever eaten snails?

(a) No, I . . .

(b) Yes, I (eat) some at Tom's party last week.

3 Have they repaired the road?

(a) No, they . . .

(b) They only (repair) part of it so far.

4 Have they done their homework?

(a) Yes, they (do) it all.

(b) Yes, they (do) it before they left school.

5 Have you been to the opera this week?

(a) Yes, I . . .

(b) Yes, I (go) to Faust on Friday.

6 Have you found the matches?

(a) No, I . . .

(b) No, I (not find) them yet.

7 Have you seen him lately?

(a) No, I . . .

(b) No, I (not see) him since Christmas.

8 Have you been here before?

(a) No, I ...

(b) Yes, I (be) here several times.

**Ex. 66 Make up situations to justify the use of the Present Perfect and the Past Indefinite in the following pairs of sentences containing an indication of a period of time:**

1. I haven't read the paper this morning. I didn't read the paper this morning. 2. We haven't seen them for years. We didn't see them for years. 3. He hasn't gone to bed for two days. He didn't go to bed for two days. 4. He has been a teacher for ten years. He was a teacher for ten years. 5. I've had a letter from him today. I had a letter from him today. 6. Have you seen him this afternoon? Did you see him this afternoon? 7. We haven't corresponded for months. We didn't correspond for months. 8. He has

called me up from London three times this week. He called me up from London three times this week. 9. I've met them both this afternoon. I met them both this afternoon.

**Ex. 67 Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect or the simple past tense. In some sentences the present perfect continuous is also possible:**

1 This is my house. - How long you (live) here? - I (live) here since 1970. 2 He (live) in London for two years and then (go) to Edinburgh. 3 You (wear) your hair long when you were at school? - Yes, my mother (insist) on it. 4 But when I (leave) school I (cut) my hair and (wear) it short ever since. 5 Shakespeare (write) a lot of plays. 6 My brother (write) several plays. He just (finish) his second tragedy. 7 I (fly) over Loch Ness last week. - You (see) the Loch Ness monster? 8 I (not see) him for three years. I wonder where he is. 9 He (not smoke) for two weeks. He is trying to give it up. 10 Chopin (compose) some of his music in Majorca. 11 When he (arrive)? - He (arrive) at 2.00. 12 You (lock) the door before you left the house? 13 I (read) his books when I was at school. I (enjoy) them very much. 14 I can't go out because I (not finish) my work. 15 I never (drink) whisky. - Well, have some now. 16 I (write) the letter but I can't find a stamp. 17 The clock is slow. - It isn't slow, it (stop). 18 Here are your shoes; I just (clean) them. 19 I (leave) home at 8.00 and (get) here at twelve. 20 I (do) this sort of work when I (be) an apprentice. 21 He just (go) out. 22 He (go) out ten minutes ago. 23 You (have) breakfast yet? - Yes, I (have) it at 8.00. 24 I (meet) him last June. 25 You (see) the moon last night? 26 The concert (begin) at 2.30 and (last) for two hours. Everyone (enjoy) it very much. 27 The play just (begin). You are a little late. 28 The newspaper (come)? - Yes, Ann is reading it. 29 The actors (arrive) yesterday and (start) rehearsals early this morning. 30 It (be) very cold this year. I wonder when it is going to get warmer. 31 Cervantes (write) Don Quixote. 32 We (miss) the bus. Now we'll have to walk. 33 He (break) his leg in a skiing accident last year. 34 Mr. Pound is the bank manager. He (be) here for five years. 35 Mr Count (work) as a cashier for twenty-five years. Then he (retire) and (go) to live in the country. 36 You (be) here before? - Yes, I (spend) my holidays here last year. - You (have) a good time? - No, it never (stop) raining.

**Ex. 68 Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect or simple past tense:**

1 Where is Tom? - I (not see) him today, but he (tell) Mary that he'd be

in for dinner. 2 I (buy) this in Bond Street. -How much you (pay) for it? - I (pay) J100. 3 Where you (find) this knife? -I (find) it in the garden. -Why you (not leave) it there?4 I (lose) my black gloves. You (see) them anywhere? - No, I'm afraid 1.... When you last (wear) them? - I (wear) them at the theatre last night. - Perhaps you (leave) them at the theatre. 5 Do you know that lady who just (leave) the shop? - Yes, that is Miss Thrift. Is she a customer of yours? - Not exactly. She (be) in here several times but she never (buy) anything. 6 He (leave) the house at 8.00. - Where he (go)? - I (not see) where he (go). 7 He (serve) in the First World War. - When that war (begin)? - It (begin) in 1914 and (last) for four years. 8 Who you (vote) for at the last election? - I (vote) for Mr Pitt. - He (not be) elected, (be) he? - No, he (lose) his deposit.9 You (like) your last job? - I (like) it at first but then I (quarrel) with my employer and he (dismiss) me. - How long you (be) there? - I (be) there for two weeks. 10 I (not know) that you (know) Mrs Pitt. How long you (know) her? - I (know) her for ten years. 11 That is Mr Minus, who teaches me mathematics, but he (not have) time to teach me much. I only (be) in his class for a week. 12 You (hear) his speech on the radio last night? - Yes, I . . . - What you (think) of it? 13 I (not know) that you (be) here. You (be) here long? - Yes, I (be) here two months. - You (be) to the Cathedral? - Yes, I (go) there last Sunday. 14 You ever (try) to give up smoking? - Yes, I (try) last year, but then I (find) that I was getting fat so I (start) again. 15 You (see) today's paper? - No, anything interesting (happen)? Yes, two convicted murderers (escape) from the prison down the road. 16 Mary (feed) the cat? - Yes, she (feed) him before lunch. - What she (give) him? - She (give) him some fish 17 How long you (know) your new assistant? - I (know) him for two years. - What he (do) before he (come) here? - I think he (be) in prison. 18 I (not see) your aunt recently. - No. She (not be) out of her house since she (buy) her colour TV.19 The plumber(be)here yet? - Yes, but he only (stay) for an hour. - What he (do) in that time? - He (turn) off the water and (empty) the tank. 20 Where you (be)? I (be) out in a yacht. - You (enjoy) it? - Yes, very much. We (take) part in a race. - You (win)? - No, we (come) in last. 21 How long that horrible monument (be) there? - It (be) there six months. Lots of people (write) to the Town Council asking them to take it away but so far nothing (be) done. 22 I just (be) to the film War and Peace. You (see) it? - No, 1.... Is it like the book? - I (not read) the book. - I (read) it when I (be) at school. - When Tolstoy (write) it? - He (write) it in 1868. - He (write) anything else? 23 Hannibal (bring) elephants across the Alps. - Why he (do) that? - He (want) to use them in battle. 24 Where you (be)? - I (be) to the dentist. - He (take) out your bad

tooth? - Yes, he . . . - It (hurt)?- Yes, horribly. 25 She (say) that she'd phone me this morning, but it is now 12.30 and she (not phone) yet. 26 I just (receive) a letter saying that we (not pay) this quarter's electricity bill. I (not give) you the money for that last week? - Yes, you . . . but I'm afraid I (spend) it on something else. 27 How long you (be) out of work? - I'm not out of work now. I just (start) a new job. - How you (find) the job? -I (answer) an advertisement in the paper. 28 You (finish) checking the accounts? - No, not quite. I (do) about half so far. 29 I (cut) my hand rather badly. Have you a bandage? - I'll get you one. How it (happen)? - I was chopping some wood and the axe (slip). 30 How you (get) that scar? - I (get) it in a car accident a year ago. 31 You (meet) my brother at the lecture yesterday? - Yes, I .. .. We (have) coffee together afterwards. 32 He (lose) his job last month and since then he (be) out of work. - Why he (lose) his job? - He (be) very rude to Mr Pitt. 33 What are all those people looking at? - There (be) an accident. - You (see) what (happen)? - Yes, a motor cycle (run) into a lorry. 34 I (phone) you twice yesterday and (get) no answer. 35 Originally horses used in bull fights (not wear) any protection, but for some time now they (wear) special padding, 36 That house (be) empty for a year. But they just (take) down the 'For Sale' sign, so I suppose someone (buy) it.

**Ex. 69 Put the verbs in brackets into the: present perfect or simple past. (In some cases the present perfect continuous is possible)**

1 Paul: I (play) football since I was five years old. Tom: You (play) since you (come) to England? Paul: Oh yes. I (play) quite a lot. I (join) a club the day after I (arrive). 2 Tom: You (play) any matches? Paul: We (play) about ten. We have two more to play. We (have) a very good season, we (win) all our matches so far, though we (not really deserve) to win the last one. 3 Tom: I (play) football when I (be) at school but when I (leave) school I (drop) it and (take) up golf. 4 Ann: Hello, Jack! I (not see) you for ages! Where you (be)? Jack: I (be) in Switzerland. I (mean) to send you a postcard but I (not have) your address with me. Ann: Never mind. You (have) a good time in Switzerland? How long you (be) there? Jack: I (be) there for a month. I only just (get) back. Yes, I (enjoy) it thoroughly. I (ski) all day and (dance) all night. 5 Ann: I (ski) when I (be) at the university, but I (break) a leg five years ago and since then I (not do) any. 6 When I first (come) to this house, it (be) a very quiet area. But since then a new housing estate (be) built and it (become) very noisy. 7 My son (not start) work yet. He's still at the High School. - How long he (be) at school? - He (be) at the High School for six years; before that he (spend) five years



at the Primary School in Windmill Street. 8 I just (hear) that Peter is in Australia. - Oh, you (not know)? He (fly) out at the beginning of the month. - You (hear) from him? Does he like the life? - Yes, I (get) a letter last week. He (tell) me about his job. But he (not say) whether he (like) the life or not. Perhaps it's too soon to say. He only (be) there three weeks. 9 I (not know) you (be) left-handed. - I'm not left-handed; but my oil-heater (explode) yesterday and I (burn) my right hand, so I have to use my left. 10 This bicycle (be) in our family for fourteen years. My father (use) it for the first five years, my brother (ride) it for the next five, and I (have) it for the last four. 11 I hear that your MP, Mr Simpson, (make) a very clever speech last night. How long he (be) your MP? - Oh, we only (have) him since January. His predecessor Mr Alien (resign) suddenly because of ill-health and there (be) a by-election. 12 I hear that Mr Jones (leave). - Yes, he (leave) last week. - Anybody (be) appointed to take his place? - I believe several men (apply) for the job but so far nothing (be) decided. 13 Peter (meeting Ann at the airport): Hello, Ann. You (have) a good trip? Ann: The actual flight (be) lovely, one of the best I (have) ever, but it (take) ages to get into the plane. First they (think) that one of us (be) a hijacker and they (search) us all for firearms; then they (announce) that one of the engines (be) faulty. We finally (take off) an hour later. 14 Peter: How you (spend) this extra hour before take-off? Ann: Oh, they (take) us to the restaurant and (feed) us and we (walk) about and (buy) things we (not need). The time (pass) all right. 15 You (book) your hotel room yet? - Well, I (write) to the hotel last week but they (not answer) yet. 16 Peter (meeting Paul unexpectedly in London): Hello, Paul! I (not know) you (be) here. Paul: Oh, I (be) here nearly two months. I (arrive) on the 6th of January. 17 Peter: When we last (meet) you (say) that nothing would induce you to come to England. What (make) you change your mind? Paul: I (find) that I (need) English for my work and this (seem) the quickest way of learning it. 18 Peter: You (know) any English when you first (arrive) here? Paul: No, I (not know) a word. 19 Ann (to Yvonne, who is going to English classes): How long you (learn) English? Yvonne: I (learn) off and on for about five and a half years. (Use the continuous form.) 20 I (begin) English at secondary school and (do) it for three years. Then I (drop) it for a year and (forget) most of it. Then I (spend) two years at a secretarial college, where I (study) commercial English, and for the last six months I (study) in London. 21 At 4 p.m. my neighbour (ring) up and (say), 'Is Tom with you?' Tom, her son, (spend) most of his time in my garden playing with my children, so whenever she (not be able) to find him she (ring) me. I'm afraid I (not see) him today,' I (say). 'But my children (go) to the beach this

morning and (not come) back yet. Perhaps he (go) with them.' 22 I just (have) my first driving lesson. - How it (go)? You (enjoy) it? - Well, I not actually (hit) anything but I (make) every other possible mistake. 23 Old Ben (sell) newspapers just inside the station entrance, and my father always (buy) his evening paper from him as he (leave) the station on his way home. But one day my father (arrive) home without his paper. 'Ben (not be) there this evening,' he (say). 'I hope he (not be taken) ill.' 24 On Saturday afternoon I (see) Frederick sitting in his garden. 'I (think) you (work) on Saturdays,' I (say). 'I (work) this morning,' (explain) Frederick, 'but at lunch time the boss (go) off to play golf and (tell) us all to go home. It's about time he (give) us a whole Saturday off actually. I (work) practically even Saturday since the beginning of the year.' 25 Ann: You (be) to Hampton Court? Jane: Yes, I (go) there last week. The tulips (be) wonderful. Ann: You (go) by car? Jane: No, I (go) with my English class. We (hire) a coach. 26 Ann: Where else you (be) to since you (come) to England? Jane: Oh, I (be) to Stratford and Coventry and Oxford and Canterbury. 27 Ann: You (see) a lot. When you (go) to Stratford? Jane: I (go) last week. The people I work for (take) me. 28 Ann: You (see) a play at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre when you (be) at Stratford? Jane: Yes, we (see) Macbeth. We were very lucky. We just (walk) in and (ask) if they (have) any returned tickets, and the girl at the box office (say), 'Yes, a man just (return) three stalls.' 29 Ann: You (be) to Wales? Jane: No, I (be) to Scotland but I (not be) to Wales. I'd like to go. 30 Peter: You (see) any good films lately? Ann: Yes, I (go) to the National Film Theatre last week and (see) a Japanese film. Peter: You (like) it? Ann: Yes, I (love) it, but of course I (not understand) a word. 31 Tom: I hear that Mr Benson just (die). You (know) him quite well, didn't you? Jack: Yes. We (work) for the same company for ten years. I (not see) so much of him after he (leave) the company but we (keep) in touch 32 Ann (think) the garage (be) empty, and (turn) off the lights. 'Hey!' (shout) Paul from under the car. 'I'm sorry, Paul,' (say) Ann, I (not know) you (be) there.' 33 Father: Tom (not come) back yet? Mother: Yes, he (come) in an hour ago. He (go) straight to bed. Father: Funny. I (not hear) him. 34 Paul: That's a live wire. It just (give) me a shock! Ann: Nonsense! I just (touch) it and I (not feel) anything! 35 When Paul (come) into the room, Ann was sitting in an armchair just behind the door. Paul, not noticing Ann, (go) to the window and (look) out. Ann (cough) and Paul (spin) round. 'Hello, Ann!' he (exclaim), 'I (not see) you!' 36 Jack: You just (agree) to go, so why aren't you getting ready? Peter: But I (not realize) that you (want) me to start at once!

**Ex. 70 Use Present Perfect or the Past Indefinite in the following sentences:**

1. I never (to see) anyone more beautiful than your wife. 2. I (to meet) your husband this afternoon at Green Street. 3. He said, "You (to meet) this passenger. He calls himself Major Jones." "I (to speak) to him." 4. "I (to get) hold of some money — enough for Tony to go off for a couple of years." "You (to raise) all that money by doing your own housework?" "No, of course not." "Milly, what you (to be) up to? What you (to do)?" "I (to sell) the house." "But what's Tony going to say? You (to tell) him?" "Why should he care? He's young." "Why you (not to tell) him?" 5. I said, "Mr Jones (to be) arrested by the police." "My goodness. You don't say. What he (to do)?" "He necessarily (not to do) anything." "He (to see) a lawyer?" "That's not possible here. The police wouldn't allow it." 6. "You (to hear) the news?" "What news?" "About Ted and Dave. They (to be) out on the roof last night and Ted (to slip) and Dave (to try) to hold him but he couldn't and (to be) pulled off too. They're both in hospital with concussion and their people (to be) sent for." 7. I understand you (to have) an unpleasant experience at the week-end? What (to happen) exactly? 8. You remember the coin you (to find) in the pool? 9. "Mr Dillon (to arrive), Kate." "Oh, good. You (to find) your way all right then, Mr Dillon? I (not to hear) you ring the bell." "I couldn't find the bell, so I (to knock) instead." 10. He (to light) a cigarette and (to walk) to the window. 11. "Can we get dinner here?" "Of course we can. Have you got enough money? I (to spend) my last dollar on the taxi." 12. You (to say) just now that time (to be) everything. What you (to mean) by that? 13. As we got into the taxi my brother asked, "Well, you (to speak) to Harry?" "I (to speak) to him for a moment." 14. "Hallo," the little girl said to her mother and looked at her companion. "Come and say 'How do you do' to Mr Ogden." "I (to see) him already." "You can't have done, dear. He only just (to arrive) here." "I (to see) him in the hall this afternoon." "I'm sure you didn't. You (to see) my little daughter yet, Mr Ogden?" "I don't think we (to meet) before," said Mr Ogden. 15. "I remember you (to have) three funny little freckles on your nose," he said, "but they (to disappear)." 16. I think I'd better go now. I (to act) wrongly and I in a way (to deceive) you. I'm sorry. 17. "You (to read) 'Winnie the Pooh' by A. A. Milne?" "Yes." "And how you (to like) it?" "Very much indeed." 18. She (to come) into the room and (to lean) over her father's chair and (to kiss) his cheek. "You (to have) a good trip?" 19. You (not to hear) what the pilot (to say)? 20. At school I (to be) never good at languages, but here I (to pick) up a bit of French. 21. "Good night. It (to be) nice to meet you," he (to say) and (to go) off to his car. 22. "Poor girl,"

said Renny looking after her. "Don't pity her! She (to have) her happiness. We all pay for that." "You (to have) yours?" "I (to have) my share." "You (to pay) for it?" "Twice over." 23. Well, I know what you (to be) through. 24. "Then what (to happen) to you there?" "Let's forget it. Even now I can't believe I (to do) it."

**Ex. 71 Use the Present Perfect or the Past Indefinite in questions in the following text:**

— Are you a soldier by profession? - Yes. — How long you (to be) in the army? — Twenty-five years. — When you (to join) the army? - In 1932. - Where you (to serve) during the war? First on the territory of Ukraine, then in the Far East. You (to see) much fighting in Ukraine? A good deal. — How long you (to remain) there? For over a year. Why you (to be) sent to the Far East? - I (to be) wounded. What sort of wound it (to be)? - A bullet through the shoulder. How many times you (to be) wounded during the war? - Three times. They (to be) serious wounds? Rather. When you (to be) wounded the last time? In 1945. How you (to feel) since the army? Not very strong. Why you (not to leave) the army? I can't imagine my life outside the army. Where you (to serve) lately? In the Caucasus mostly. The climate there suits my health.

**Ex. 72 Use the Present Perfect or the Past Indefinite in the following questions:**

1. "I'll drink tea from this tin mug." "Wherever you (to find) it?" 2. "What you (to hear)?" she demanded. "A farmer tells me he saw your brother walking back to the town." "Why he (not to tell) us?" "He thought we knew." 3. The parrot screamed a few words in Hindi. "Where he (to learn) that?" my aunt asked me. 4. He showed her inside the house. "Oh, how lovely!" she exclaimed. "I had no idea it would be so lovely. Why you (not to tell) us? And you (to do) it all by yourself?" "Yes." "How you (to manage) it? It's so tidy. And the new tea-set! When you (to buy) it?" 5. When Renny came in, his grandmother asked him: "Where you (to be) all day?" 6. "What sort of time you (to have) in France?" "A lot of things happened there." 7. "Everyone in the village will talk about it." "How this affair (to begin)?" 8. "How many children you (to teach) in that other family?" the girl asked her new governess. "Not many. Just one girl." "How long you (to stay) with her?" 9. Then my mother asked me: "Why you (to go) to the post-office today?"

**Ex. 73 Translate the following into English concentrating on the use**

**of the Present Perfect and the Past Indefinite in sentences containing an indication of a period of time:**

1. «Вы не можете мне сказать, уехала ли мисс Смит лондонским поездом сегодня утром?» — спросил он у начальника станции. — «Нет. Она опоздала на него». 2. Они проговорили около двух часов, и затем он сказал, что ему надо повидать кое-кого из друзей. 3. Его мать умерла. Она долго работала учительницей. 4. Послушай-ка, Джон, твоя хозяйка говорит, что ты сегодня лежишь целый день в постели. Это ведь не годится, правда? 5. Она удивилась, увидев его. «Разве ты не получил мое пись мо?» — «Твое письмо? Нет». — «Да, конечно, ты еще не мог его получить. Я забыла. Оно было отправлено только сегодня утром». 6. Она резко повернулась к мужу и сказала: «Я отгоню машину домой». — «Но ведь ты не водила машину много месяцев», — возразил он. — «Я еще не забыла, как это делается». 7. Мы все трое пошли вместе по улице. В течение некоторого времени все молчали. 8. «Дядя Том приезжает, — объявила Мег. — Мама получила от него письмо сегодня утром». 9. На этой неделе у меня едва было время, чтобы просмотреть газету. 10. «Тебе следует пойти навестить Вилли, — сказала она. — Ты не видел его три недели. Вы поссорились?» 11. Они долго сидели рядом. Джек первым нарушил молчание.

**Ex. 74 Make up situations to justify the use of the Present Perfect and the Past Indefinite in the following pairs of sentences:**

1. I left the car outside the gate.  
I've left the car outside the gate.
2. We've settled everything.  
We settled everything.
3. You behaved like a courageous man.  
You have behaved like a courageous man.
4. The children have taken their toys to the library.  
The children took their toys to the library.
5. I taught little children.  
I've taught little children.
6. I hurt my ankle.  
I've hurt my ankle.
7. I had a letter from home.  
I've had a letter from home.
8. Have you spoken to him?  
Did you speak to him?

9. We've been engaged for nearly two years.

We were engaged for nearly two years.

10. He has brought his collection of stamps.

He brought his collection of stamps.

**Ex. 75 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense: present perfect or simple past:**

1 I (buy) a new house last year, but I (not sell) my old house yet, so at the moment I have two houses. 2 When Ann (be) on her way to the station it (begin) to rain. Ann (run) back to her flat for her umbrella, but this (make) her late for her train. 3 She (catch) the next train but it (not get) in till 9.00, so she (arrive) at her office ten minutes late. 4 Her boss (look) up as she (come) in. 'You (be) late every morning this week,' he (growl). 5 At 7 a.m. Charles (ring) Peter and (say), 'I'm going fishing, Peter. Would you like to come?' 'But it's so early,' (say) Peter. I (not have) breakfast yet. Why you (not tell) me last night?' 6 Tom (meet) Paul at lunch time and (say), I (not see) you at the bus stop this morning. You (miss) the bus?' 'I (not miss) it,' (reply) Paul. I (not miss) a bus for years. But this morning George (give) me a lift. ' 7 Ann (go) to Canada six months ago. She (work) in Canada for a while and then (go) to the United States. 8 Mary (be) in Japan for two years. She is working there and likes it very much. - How she (go)? - She (go) by air. 9 When I (buy) my new house I (ask) for a telephone. The Post Office (tell) me to wait, but I (wait) a year now and my phone still (not come). 10 Bill usually has breakfast at 8.00. Yesterday at 8.30 Peter (meet) Bill and (offer) him an apple. 'No, thanks,' (say) Bill. I just (have) breakfast.' 11 Just as Ann (arrive) at the airfield a plane (land) and a girl (climb) out. To her surprise Ann (recognize) her cousin, Lucy. 'Hello, Lucy,' she (exclaim). I (not know) that you (know) how to fly a plane.' 'I only just (learn),' (say) Lucy. 'I (go) solo for the first time last week.' 12 Peter (try) to come in quietly but his mother (hear) him and (call) out, 'Where you (be)? Your supper (be) in the oven for an hour.' 13 You (be) to the theatre lately? - Yes, I (go) to Othello last week. - You (like) it? - Yes, but I (not see) very well. I (be) right at the back 14 Ann (coming out of a bookshop): I just (buy) a copy of David Copperfield. You (read) it? Mary: As it happens it is the only one of Dickens's books that I (not read). I (not even see) the film. 15 You (be) to Cambridge? - Yes, I (be) there last month. - How you (get) there? - My brother (take) me in his car. 16 You (see) Philip lately? I (ring) his flat several times last week but (get) no answer. - Oh, he (be) in America for the last month. He (fly) out on the first a conference and then (decide) to stay for six weeks. - You (hear)

from him? - Yes, I (get) a letter shortly after he (arrive). 17 How long you (be) in your present job? - I (be) there for six months. - And what you (do) before that? - Before that I (work) for Jones and Company. 18 How long you (work) for Jones and Company? - I (work) for them for two years. - You (like) working for them? - No, I (not like) it at all. - Then why you (stay) so long? 19 We usually go out on Saturday evenings, but last Saturday (be) so wet that we (stay) in and (play) cards. - What you (play)? - We (play) poker. I (lose) fifty pence. 20 When you (begin) school? - I (begin) school when I (be) five. I (go) to a primary school first. I (stay) there for six years and then I (go) to a comprehensive school 21 When I (be) seventeen I (start) my university course. - When you (get) your degree? - Oh, I (not get) my degree yet; I'm still at the university. I only (be) there for two years. 22 Tom (leave) the house at 8.20. At 8.25 the phone in Tom's house (ring), Tom's wife, Mary, (answer) it. 'Could I speak to Tom, please?' (say) the caller. 'I'm afraid he just (go) out', (say) Mary. 23 You (be) to Cornwall? - Yes, I (be) there last Easter. - You (go) by train? - No, I (hitch-hike). 24 I (not see) Charles for some time. - He (be) ill, poor chap. He (collapse) at work a fortnight ago and (be taken) to hospital. They (send) him home after two days but he (not come) back to work yet. 25 There (be) a very good programme on TV last night. You (see) it? - No, I (take) my set back to the shop last week because there (be) so much distortion; and they (say) it (need) a new part. They (not be able) to get the new part so far, so I (not watch) television for about ten days. 26 You (ever) be to France? - Yes, I (spend) last July and August in Grenoble. I (go) to improve my French but everyone I (meet) (want) to improve his English so I (not get) much practice. 27 The postman usually comes between 8.00 and 9.00 in the morning. At 8.45 a.m. yesterday Ann (say), 'Are there any letters for me?' 'I don't know,' (say) Mary. The postman (not come) yet.' At 11 a.m. Jack, Mary's husband, (ring) from his office to ask if there (be) any letters for him. 'No,' (say) Mary. 'Nobody (get) letters today. The postman (not come).'

28 Mr Speed, Ann's employer, (dictate) three letters and (tell) Ann to type them as soon as possible. Half an hour later he (ring) Ann's office. 'You (finish) those letters yet?' he (ask). 'Well,' (say) Ann, 'I (do) the letter to Mr Jones, and I'm now typing the one to Mr Robinson, but I (not start) the one to Mr Smith yet.'

29 You (find) out yet about the trains to Liverpool? - No. I (ring) the station last night but the man who (answer) the phone (not seem) to be sure of the times. He (say) something about a new timetable. - But the new timetable (be) in operation for three weeks! 30 Tom and Jack work in different offices but go to work in the same train. One evening Tom's wife (say), 'Jack (move) into his new

house yet?' I don't know,' (say) Tom, I (not see) Jack today. He (not be) on the train.' 31 Where you (be)? - I (be) shopping in Oxford Street. - So I suppose you (buy) shoes? - Yes. I (find) a shop where they were having a sale and I (get) three pairs. 32 In the evenings I often play chess with my next door neighbour. I (play) chess with him ever since I (come) to live here ten years ago. He (be) here all his life; he (inherit) the house from his father, another great chess player. - You ever (play) chess with the father? - We (play) once or twice but he (die) a year after I (arrive). 33 I can't find my gloves. You (see) them? - Yes, you (leave) them in the car yesterday. I (put) them back in your drawer. 34 I hope you're enjoying your visit to England. You (meet) any Englishmen yet? - Yes, I (meet) a man called Smith at a party last night. - What you (talk) about? - We (talk) about the weather 35 Mrs Jones: For years I (do) all my washing by hand; then last year I (buy) a washing machine and I must say it (make) washing day much less exhausting. It only takes me an hour now. Mrs White: I don't like washing machines. I always (do) my washing by hand and I intend to go on doing it. I always (find) it very satisfying work. 36 Tom: Don't you think it's time we (have) something different for, Sunday dinner? Ann: But we (have) roast beef for Sunday dinner ever since we (get married). Your mother (tell) me that you (be) particularly fond of roast beef. Tom: But my mother (be) dead for five years and in those five year my tastes (change).

**Ex. 76 Translate the following into English concentrating on the use of the Present Perfect and the Past Indefinite:**

1. Она была одна, когда вошел ее муж. Он с удивлением оглядел комнату. «Что это?» — спросил он. — «Я переехала». Она улыбнулась ему. — «Дом еще не готов. Ты не можешь этого сделать». — «Я уже сделала это». 2. Когда Молли вошла в комнату, я сказал: «Я принес мой старый альбом с марками. Вашего мужа я встретил на крыльце. Он попросил меня оставить его вам». 3. «Добрый день, — сказал он. — Можно мне повидать Мэри?» — «Ее здесь нет, — ответила ее мать. — У меня был с ней разговор, который ей не понравился, и она уехала». 4. «Я позвонила доктору», — сказала его сестра, входя в комнату. Когда Роберт пришел в себя, он спросил: «Ты сказала, что позвонила доктору? Останови его, если можно. Я совсем здоров. Я просто не могу себе представить, почему я потерял сознание». 5. «Где он? Я должен его увидеть». — «Он ушел в лес». 6. «Отец внизу?» — «Да». — «Он ходил к Смитам?» — «Да». — «Что сказал м-р Смит?» — «Отец его не видел». 7. Она встала из-за стола. «Я должна пойти запереть калитку. Уже стемнело». 8. «Посмотри, —



сказал он, держа по щетке в каждой руке, — что мой двоюродный братец подарил мне! Он оставил их на моем туалетном столике». 9. Мальчик вышел и четким голосом прочитал стишок. Его мать заговорила первой. «Подойди сюда, — сказала она ему. — Кто научил тебя этому?» — «Я сам его придумал», — ответил мальчик. 10.Моей одежды нет в комнате. Они ее унесли. 11.Он сорвал цветок. «Посмотри, что я сделал», — сказал он. — «Зачем ты это сделал?» — «Я не знаю». 12.Что я сделал такого, чтобы так сильно рассердить отца? 13. Затем они все прошли в столовую и заняли свои места за столом. «А брат и я уже завтракали, — вдруг воскликнула Мег, — я совсем забыла». 14.Молли, случилось что-то ужасное. У соседней на крыльце нашли младенца. 15.Говорят, что девушка и ее тетка продали свой домик и уезжают куда-то к родственникам.

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**For notes**

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АНГЛИЙСКОГО ЯЗЫКА**

**ПРАКТИЧЕСКОЕ ПОСОБИЕ**

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