

Strategies and skills

Present tenses

The gaps often test your knowledge of the present and present perfect verb tenses. The gapped word is often an auxiliary verb, for example a form of the verbs *be*, *do* or *have*. The verb may be in the active or passive form.

1 Complete the sentences with one word in each gap.

- I have _____ training for a marathon recently.
- Nowadays, a good diet _____ believed to be extremely important for health.
- These days, people _____ beginning to realise that we need to take climate change seriously.
- Some people think that cooking is a chore, but I _____ not agree.
- The competition _____ been held in the town for the last 15 years.
- It's now six o'clock in the morning and the sun _____ just come up.

SPEAKING BOOST

Discuss or answer.

- Where's the funniest place you have fallen asleep?
- Describe a dream that you had recently.

Future forms

The gaps sometimes test your knowledge of future forms, such as the future continuous, future perfect and future perfect continuous. The gapped word is usually an auxiliary verb, for example a form of the verbs *be* or *have*. They may also test your knowledge of future forms of *be able to* and *have to*.

2 Choose the correct words to complete the future forms in the sentences.

- My knee is nearly better, so I hope I **be able / will be able** to go on my walking holiday.
- Next week's World Cup Final will **watch / be watched** by millions of people all over the world.
- Hurry up, or the train **will have left / will have been leaving** by the time we get to the station!
- In June we **will be travelling / going to travel** around India.
- It will be too far to walk, so you **have to / will have to** get a taxi.
- By next summer I will **have been living / be living** in Cádiz for five years.

3 Complete the sentences with one word in each gap.

- Tomorrow I will _____ flying to New York for my gap year.
- The festival will _____ started by the time we get back from our trip to Tuscany.
- I hope you will _____ able to join us for the meal.
- We will be tired when we get home because we will have _____ walking for ten days.
- The new sports centre will _____ opened by a TV celebrity next month.
- I think we will _____ to work harder if we want to get everything finished.

Conditional forms

The gaps sometimes test your knowledge of conditionals. Make sure you know the zero, first, second and third conditional forms, and learn the difference between *if* and *unless*. The gaps may also test your knowledge of structures with *wish*.

4 Choose the correct words (A-C) to complete the sentences.

- The holiday would have been more fun if the weather _____ been better.
A had B was C would
- If I had more free time, I _____ love to join a choir.
A will B would C can
- We'll meet for lunch next week if I _____ not too busy at work.
A am B will C was
- I usually travel by tram if I _____ the choice.
A had B have C got
- I knew that I wouldn't have any chance of winning _____ I could improve significantly.
A if B because C unless
- It was getting late now, and I was starting to wish that we _____ caught an earlier train.
A would B have C had
- It is worth upgrading to a first-class ticket _____ you want to be certain of getting a seat.
A if B although C unless
- I wish my brother _____ let me borrow his car!
A will B would C can

SPEAKING BOOST

Discuss or answer.

- What changes will there be in the car industry over the next 20 years?
- What's the oldest thing you own? Why do you still have it?

