

Simple Past vs. Present Perfect 2

Listen to the audio and write the correct form of the verb:

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Since computers were first introduced to the public in the early 1980's, technology (change) _____ a great deal. The first computers (be) _____ simple machines designed for basic tasks. They (have, not) _____ much memory and they (be, not) _____ very powerful. Early computers were often quite expensive and customers often (pay) _____ thousands of dollars for machines which actually (do) _____ very little. Most computers (be) _____ separate, individual machines used mostly as expensive typewriters or for playing games.

Times (change) _____. Computers (become) _____ powerful machines with very practical applications. Programmers (create) _____ a large selection of useful programs which do everything from teaching foreign languages to bookkeeping. We are still playing video games, but today's games (become) _____ faster, more exciting interactive adventures. Many computer users (get, also) _____ on the Internet and (begin) _____ communicating with other computer users around the world. We (start) _____ to create international communities online. In short, the simple, individual machines of the past (evolve) _____ into an international World Wide Web of knowledge.