

PRESENT TENSES

Task 1. Choose a suitable caption for each picture.

a)



- 1) Did you enjoy the match?
- 2) Have you enjoyed the match?

b)



- 1) What have you been doing?
- 2) What have you done?

c)



- 1) He was married six times.
- 2) He has been married six times.

d)



- 1) How long have you been here?
- 2) How long are you here for?

e)



- 1) I've been waiting for two hours.
- 2) I waited for two hours.

f)



- 1) Where did Wendy go?
- 2) Where has Wendy been?

Task 2. Choose the most suitable tense.

- a) (Did you see/Have you seen) **Have you seen** my bag anywhere? I can't find it.
- b) Larry (is writing/has been writing/has written) _____ his novel for the last two years without getting further than Chapter One.
- c) From the minute he got up this morning Gary (asked/has asked/has been asking) _____ silly questions.
- d) (Have you given/Did you give) _____ Helen my message when you (have seen/saw) _____ her.
- e) Sorry, could you say it again? I (didn't listen/haven't listened/haven't been listening) _____ to you.
- f) The police think that they (found/have found) _____ your missing wallet, so call this number.
- g) I don't think we'll go swimming after all because the weather (changed/has changed/has been changing) _____.
- h) How was your holiday in Italy? (Did you visit/Have you visited) _____ lots of interesting places.
- i) (Did you two meet/Have you two met) _____ before? Eric, this is Amanda.
- j) (Did you meet/have you met) _____ anyone interesting at the reception?

Task 3. Put each verb in brackets into a suitable tense.

- a) I'm sorry about not coming last week. I (have) **had** cold and so I (stay) _____ at home.
- b) Wait a minute. I (have) _____ an idea. Let's go and see Roger. We last (see) _____ him a long time ago.
- c) It's nice to be back here in London. This is the second time I (come) _____ here.
- d) I'm phoning about your advertisement for a bicycle for sale, which I (see) _____ in the local paper. (you sell) _____ it?
- e) This place is a terrible mess! What on earth (you do) _____.
- f) And now for an item of local news. Hampshire police (find) _____ the dangerous snake which (go) _____ missing earlier in the week.
- g) This tooth (kill) _____ me lately! So I (make) _____ an appointment with the dentist for Tuesday.
- h) I can't give you the report I (promise) _____ for today because I (not finish) _____.
- i) Harry (not look) _____ well since he (go) _____ on a diet.
- j) It says in the paper that they (discover) _____ oil in Wales. They (look for) _____ it for ages.

Task 4. Choose the most suitable time expression. Write it in the gap.

- a) I haven't seen Gerry (for/since) **for** a long time. How is he?
- b) It's ages (ago/since) _____ I last went to a football match.
- c) I've written to Deborah (last week/recently) _____.
- d) What have you been doing (today/yesterday) _____.
- e) Have you eaten Italian food (before/already) _____?
- f) I've been living here (in/since) _____ the end of last year.
- g) Actually I had dinner with Sue (last night/lately) _____.
- h) I've been trying to get in touch with David (for ages/for the last time) _____.

- i) Terry hasn't been to Edinburgh (*since/when*) _____ we went there together.
 j) I can't remember (*how long/when*) _____ I've had this watch.

Task 5. Rewrite each sentence, beginning as shown, so that the meaning stays the same.

- a) Steve started learning the violin a month ago.
 Steve has *been learning the violin for a month*.....
 b) I haven't been to an Indian restaurant for ages.
 It's ages.....
 c) When she heard the results, Mary began to feel more confident.
 Since hearing the results.....
 d) The last time Nancy came here was in 1986.
 Nancy hasn't.....
 e) This is my first visit to Japan.
 This is the first time.....
 f) How long have Helen and Robert been married?
 When.....
 g) Jack bought those trousers last month, and has been wearing them ever since.
 Jack has.....
 h) It's a long time since our last conversation.
 We
 i) Thanks, but I had something to eat earlier.
 Thanks, but I've.....
 j) This is my first game of water-polo.
 I.....

Task 6. Put each verb in brackets into either the Present Perfect Simple or Present Perfect Continuous.

- A) Someone (eat) *has eaten* all the cakes.
 B) What (you buy) your sister for her birthday?
 C) My throat is really sore. I (sing) all evening.
 D) Brenda (learn) Russian, but she finds it difficult.
 E) How many people (you invite) to your party?
 F) Those two cats (sit) on that branch for the last hour.
 G) It (rain) all day! Why can't it stop?
 H) Diana (wear) twelve different dresses in the past week!
 I) I (do) everything you asked. What should I do now?
 J) Graham and Pauline (try) to find a house for ages, but they can't find one they can afford.

Task 7. Put each verb in brackets into either the Past Simple, Present Perfect Simple or Present Perfect Continuous.

It was announced in London this morning that the British oil Corporation (1)
(discover) oil under the sea near the Welsh coast.

The company, which (2) (drill) for oil in the area since 1990,
(3)..... (find) small amounts of oil near Swansea last month, and since then (4)
..... (discover) larger amounts under the sea-bed nearby. Last year the
government (5) (lend) over £50,000,000 to BOC, and
(6)..... (give) permission for the company to build an oil refinery and other facilities in
South Wales. The reaction of local people to today's news (7) (be) mixed so far. Local
MPs (8)..... (already welcome) the news, pointing out that the oil industry will bring
badly needed jobs to the area. But local residents are worried about the danger of pollution. "Nobody
(9)..... (ask) us yet what we want," said Ann Griffiths, leader of the Keep Out The Oil
Company Campaign. "Look what (10)..... (happen) when they
(11)..... (find) oil in Scotland in the 1960s. The oil companies (12).....
(get) rich, not the local people. BOC (13)..... (not tell) us the truth about what this is
going to mean for our people. A BOC spokesman later (14)..... (refuse) to comment.
Meanwhile local campaigners (15)..... (ask) the government to hold an inquiry.