

Look at the Learning to Learn box. Then do the task.

LEARNING TO LEARN: READING

Reading comprehension in exams: multiple choice questions

Multiple choice questions can test your understanding of different things in a text, including the main idea, specific information, and the writer's opinion. The questions follow the order of the text. To find the correct answer to multiple choice questions:

- When the options are sentence endings, read each option as a full sentence—with the sentence beginning and ending.
- Don't choose an option just because it has the same words as the text—check the meaning of the full sentence.
- Look for synonyms in the question and the text.
- Check that the whole sentence (introduction and option) matches the text, not just a part of it.

Look again at Reading Exercise 1. Find one option in question 3 that uses a synonym for a phrase in the paragraph about Singapore.

Grammar

Present perfect continuous

1 Complete the sentences with the present perfect continuous form of the verbs.

live spend wait walk not / work

- 1 My family _____ in this house for years.
- 2 _____ you _____ around the city all day?
- 3 The city information website _____ this week.
- 4 We _____ for a bus for an hour!
- 5 I _____ time with old friends in the city.

2 Read the comments. Write a question in the present perfect continuous form using the words in parentheses.

1 They have a lot of suitcases and bags.
(they / travel)

Have they been traveling?

2 There's a nice smell coming from your kitchen.
(you / cook)

3 Your Italian sounds really good.
(you / practice)

4 She's still wearing her sneakers.
(she / run)

5 They're getting lots of boxes out of the car.
(they / go shopping)

3 Read the sentences. Then complete a new sentence using the verb in **bold** and the correct time expression where necessary.

1 She **lives** in Peru. She moved five years ago.

She has been living in Peru for five years.

2 Ross and his friends live in the same apartment. They started **sharing** the place in college.

They _____ they left college.

3 It's 6 p.m. I started **working** this morning and I just stopped.

I _____ all day.

4 I left my old apartment in November. I'm still **looking** for a place to live.

I _____ November.

5 Simon got a job in Lisbon last year. He **visits** his family in Madrid every month.

Simon _____ family in Madrid every month _____ a year.

6 Fran and Jo **plan** to move to New Zealand. Two years ago, they had a great time there.

They _____ two years.

4 Complete the paragraph about a couple who travels with the present perfect or present perfect continuous form of the verbs. In some places, both forms are possible.

Lia and Carlos ¹ _____ (live) in their van since 2020. Since then, they ² _____ (drive) over 20,000 kilometers. On their trip, they ³ _____ (meet) lots of other "vanlifers," and for the last three months, they ⁴ _____ (travel) with a couple they met in Mexico. Lia ⁵ _____ (learn) Spanish since 2021, and she now speaks it quite well. This helps a lot in their daily life. They both enjoy van life, but Carlos says that when you ⁶ _____ (share) a tiny space for a long time, it can be difficult. He says it's time for a change. He ⁷ _____ (think) about buying a bigger van or renting an apartment, but he ⁸ _____ (not / decide) yet.

Pronunciation

Understanding weak auxiliary verbs

1 Underline the auxiliary verbs in the sentences.

- 1 I have been working all day.
- 2 Have they been spending money?
- 3 She has been learning Spanish since 2021.
- 4 They have been thinking about buying a bigger van.

2 1.61 Listen to the sentences in Exercise 1. Circle the verbs that are pronounced with weak forms.

