

REVIEW OF VERBAL TENSES

Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the verb in brackets:

1. While I _____ (drive) down the road, I came across a big cow.
2. When she arrived home, her husband _____ (not cook) dinner yet.
3. Spain _____ (beat) Canada at football last year.
4. Someone _____ (hit) me as I came into the room.
5. Those trees _____ (grow) so high that they block the view.
6. When I came into the room, he _____ (lie) on the floor.
7. By the time they reach Manchester tomorrow, they _____
(finish) their journey.
8. By this time next year, I _____ (finish) my studies.
9. When he called me on the phone, I _____ (drive).
10. I'm tired. I _____ (work) in the garden today.
11. By the time we got to the airport, the plane _____
(leave).
12. Mary's tutor spoke to her after several students _____
(complain) about her.
13. By the time the police arrested Jack, he _____
(steal) nearly \$2000 from his boss.
14. By the end of next year, her sleep disorder _____
(disappear) completely.
15. Speech therapies _____ (improve) considerably since they
were originally developed.
16. It's the tallest building I _____ (ever see).
17. I _____ (study) when he came in.
18. I _____ (study) for two weeks so far.
19. I am tired because I _____ (work) a lot today.
20. By the time we got to the station, the bus _____
(already leave).
21. I was studying when he _____ (arrive).
22. Her eyes are red. I think she _____ (cry).
23. I _____ (study) a lot today.
24. By three o'clock tomorrow, he _____ (finish) the
report.
25. At this time tomorrow, I _____ (celebrate) my birthday.
26. By 2035, they _____ (sell) the Oculus Rift to
every school in Europe.
27. I love hats. I _____ (wear) them all my life.
28. I had already eaten when he _____ (arrive).

29. The light went out while we _____ (have) tea.
30. After she had discussed sea contamination, she _____
(deal) with air pollution.
31. Ann left Greece after she _____ (lose) her job.
32. She _____ (not see) Jacob for several years, but
she recognized him immediately.
33. By the time they arrived, the film _____ (not begin)
yet.
34. I am exhausted because I _____ (walk) a long
distance today.
35. My cousin _____ (sleep) when her father
turned the light on.
36. I _____ (work) for this company for more than
thirty years.
37. Don't disturb her now. She _____ (have) a
rest.
38. Ed Sheeran _____ (sing) since he was a little boy.
39. She _____ (become) a sales manager three years ago.
40. My brother _____ (never / be) to Europe until he
went there last year.
41. The phone rang while I _____ (watch) the end
of my favourite TV series.
42. We were having a great time when we _____ (receive)
the bad news.
43. At this time tomorrow, I _____ (take) my driving
test.
44. We _____ (not eat) anything since yesterday.
45. The service here is terrible. I _____ (finish) my
meal before you start yours!
46. Be careful! You _____ (fall)!
47. I _____ (play) the guitar for five years.
48. Paula _____ (eat) lunch at the moment.
49. It _____ (be) my anniversary last weekend.
50. He usually _____ (go) to the gym on Thursdays.

TENSE		USE	STRUCTURE	TIME WORDS
PRESENT	Simple	Routines / facts	subject + verb (-s) → I work / He works	usually, always, every day
	Continuous	Happening NOW	am / is / are + verb (-ing) → I am studying	now, at the moment
	Perfect	Past action → result NOW	have / has + past participle → I have finished	since, for, already, yet
PAST	Simple	Finished past action	verb (-ed) / irregular → I went	yesterday, last year
	Continuous	Action in progress in the past	was / were + verb (-ing) → I was studying	while
	Perfect	Action BEFORE another past action	had + past participle → He had left	before, after, by the time
FUTURE	Will (Future Simple)	Predictions / decisions	will + verb → I will go	I think..., probably
	Going to	Plans / evidence	am / is / are + going to + verb → I am going to travel	already decided
	Continuous	Action in progress in the future	will be + verb (-ing) → I will be studying	at this time tomorrow
	Perfect	Action completed before a future time	will have + past participle → I will have finished	by tomorrow, by next week

IMPORTANT RULES

RULE 1: "WHEN / WHILE"

- While → past continuous
- When → past simple

RULE 2: "BY THE TIME"

- past → past perfect
- future → future (simple in your case)

RULE 3: TWO ACTIONS IN THE PAST

The earlier action = **past perfect**

RULE 4: CLUE WORDS

now - present continuous; **usually** - present simple; **yesterday** - past simple; **while** - past continuous; **since / for** - present perfect; **by the time** - past perfect; **tomorrow** - future