



Tenses – present

A

Read the conversation between two students. Then look at the answers below and write the correct answer in each space.

- Lisa: Who (1) is Michelle talking to?
Amy: I can't see Michelle.
Lisa: You (1) looking in the right place. She's over there.
Amy: Oh, that's Adrian. He's new here.
Lisa: Really? Where (2) he live? (3) you know?
Amy: No, I (4) know anything else about him.
Lisa: What (5) they talking about, I wonder?
Amy: Well, he (6) look very interested. He's got a very bored expression on his face. And he (7) saying anything.

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------|----------|-----------|
| ▶ a) are | b) do | c) does | d) is |
| 1 a) aren't | b) doesn't | c) don't | d) isn't |
| 2 a) are | b) do | c) does | d) is |
| 3 a) Are | b) Do | c) Does | d) Is |
| 4 a) aren't | b) doesn't | c) don't | d) 'm not |
| 5 a) are | b) do | c) does | d) is |
| 6 a) aren't | b) doesn't | c) don't | d) isn't |
| 7 a) aren't | b) doesn't | c) don't | d) isn't |

B

Read Tessa's postcard to Angela and write the missing words. Use one word only in each space.

- We're (1) having a great time here. It's beautiful, and the sun (1) shining. Yesterday I went water-skiing! What (2) you think of that?
I'm (3) at a table in our hotel room and writing a few postcards. The room is fine, but we (4) like the food very much. But it (5) matter because we (6) out to a restaurant every evening.
We're both (7) very lazy at the moment. I (8) up quite late in the morning, and Nigel (9) up even later. You know of course how much Nigel's work (10) to him and how he's (11) talking about it. Well, the holiday is so good that he's forgotten all about work. So it's the perfect holiday. The only problem is that it's (12) us a lot of money. But we'll worry about that later.

C

Each of these sentences has a mistake in it. Write the correct sentence.

- ▶ ~~The children is doing their homework now.~~
The children are doing their homework now.
1 ~~The girls are play tennis at the moment.~~
.....
2 ~~Both my brothers likes sport.~~
.....

- 3 Anna ~~wearing~~ her new coat today.
- 4 What colour ~~you~~ like best?
- 5 My suitcase ~~is weighing~~ ten kilos.
- 6 At the moment I ~~stay~~ at a hotel.
- 7 Robert ~~catch~~ the same bus every morning.
- 8 What ~~is this word here~~ mean?

D

Complete the conversations. Put in the correct form of each verb.
Use the Present Continuous or the Present Simple.

- A: Is Janet in, please?
B: Yes, but I think (I / think) she's busy at the moment. She's washing (she / wash) her hair.
- 1 A: (I / think) of buying a new computer.
B: But computers (cost) so much money. What's wrong with the one we've got?
A: (it / get) out of date now.
- 2 A: Your new trousers (look) nice.
B: Thank you. The trouble is (they / not / fit) properly.
..... (I / not / know) why I bought them, really.
- 3 A: What (you / do)?
B: (I / weigh) this letter. (I / need) to know how many stamps to put on it.
- 4 A: (I / think) this road is really dangerous. Look how fast that lorry (go).
B: (I / agree). People shouldn't go so fast.
- 5 A: (I / like) musicals. And this is a great show, isn't it?
..... (you / enjoy) it?
B: Yes, I am. (I / love) every minute of it.
- 6 A: (I / always / fall) asleep. I just can't keep awake.
B: What time (you / go) to bed?
A: About ten o'clock usually. But (it / not / make) any difference.
- 7 A: Could you post the goods to me, please?
B: Yes, certainly.
A: (I / live) at a guest house at the moment as
..... (I / look) for a flat. So could you send it to my work address?
B: Yes, of course. And you'll have the goods by the end of the week,
..... (I / promise).
- 8 A: Why (you / want) to change the whole plan?
B: I'm just not happy with it.
A: And (I / not / understand) why (you / be) so difficult about it.

Past Simple and Past Continuous

A

Put in the Past Simple of the verbs in brackets.

- The car stopped (stop) at the lights.
- 1 We (leave) the cinema before the end of the film.
 - 2 The streets (be) crowded with people.
 - 3 My grandmother (die) last year.
 - 4 Everyone (have) a marvellous time.
 - 5 We (not / like) the food they gave us.
 - 6 Claire (go) to Egypt last month.
 - 7 The accident (happen) last weekend.
 - 8 It (not / be) a very comfortable journey.
 - 9 I (know) that ages ago.

B

Write a second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Use the word in brackets.

- There were lights on the spacecraft. (had)
The spacecraft had lights on it.
- 1 I had my old coat on. (wearing)
.....
 - 2 I was on holiday, and you were on holiday, too. (we)
.....
 - 3 It isn't true that I made a mistake. (didn't)
.....
 - 4 The boys were in the middle of a game of cards. (playing)
.....
 - 5 No one told me about the change of plan. (know)
.....
 - 6 My friend was the winner of the competition. (won)
.....
 - 7 Is it a fact that the Romans built this wall? (did)
.....

C

Lorna Bright is a long-distance walker. Look at this part of her diary describing a morning's walk along the coast. Write the missing words. Use one word only in each space.

It was a fine day (►) when I started out on the last part of my walk around the coast of Britain. The sun was (1), and a light wind (2) blowing from the south-west. I was pleased that it (3) raining. I knew by now that I (4) like rain. In fact I (5) it. I (6) along the cliff top and then down into the lovely little fishing village of Wellburn, past a café where people (7) having morning coffee. Three miles past Wellburn I (8) down for five minutes and (9) a drink. Now it (10) getting warmer, so I (11) off one of my sweaters. I (12) stop for long because I (13) to reach Seabury by lunch-time. (14) I finally got there, it (15) just after half past twelve.

D

Each of these sentences has a mistake in it. Write the correct sentence.

- The hotel were very quiet.

The hotel was very quiet.

- 1 It was peaceful, and the birds were sing.
- 2 I washed my hair when the phone rang.
- 3 You came not to the club last night.
- 4 It taked ages to get home.
- 5 We tried to keep quiet because the baby sleeping.
- 6 As I was watching him, the man was suddenly running away.
- 7 We pass a petrol-station two minutes ago.
- 8 Everything was seeming OK.
- 9 Where bought you that bag?
- 10 When I heard the alarm, I was leaving the room immediately.

E

Complete the sentences. Put in the correct form of each verb. Use the Past Continuous or Past Simple.

- When Martin arrived (arrive) home, Anna was talking (talk) to someone on the phone. Martin started (start) to get the tea.
- 1 I (lie) in the bath when the phone (ring). It (stop) after a few rings.
 - 2 It (be) cold when we (leave) the house that day, and a light snow (fall).
 - 3 Your friend who (come) here the other day (seem) very nice. I (enjoy) meeting her.
 - 4 When I (see) the man, he (stand) outside the bank. He (have) a black baseball cap on.
 - 5 When I (open) the cupboard door, a pile of books (fall) out.
 - 6 I (walk) along the street when I suddenly (feel) something hit me in the back. I (not / know) what it was.
 - 7 We (go) to London yesterday, but on the way we (hear) about a bomb scare in Oxford Street. So we (drive) back home straightaway.
 - 8 Something very strange (happen) to me on my way home from work yesterday afternoon. I (drive) along the bypass at the time. Suddenly I (see) my mother in the seat beside me. But she died three years ago.