1. Match the following words with their correct definition.

1. People were not allowed to go to work during the shutdown.
2. According to the new ruling, people are not allowed to smoke in public places.
3. He tried to obscure my view by standing in front of me.
4. I couldn't see anything because of the haze.
5. Carbon dioxide emissions will be reduced by 20% over the next 5 years.

a. an official legal decision
b. closing a factory, school, machine or operations
c. prevent /stop someone from seeing something
d. the air when it is not very clear because of something such as heat or smoke, making it difficult to see well
e. the amount of gas, heat, light, etc that is sent out



2. Read the text.

Beijing smog 'red alert'

Schools and businesses to completely shut down as Chinese capital issues first ever extreme warning.

Beijing **has issued** its first ever "red alert" over the city's smog, with the Chinese capital going into shutdown in an attempt to protect people from the deadly air.

It is the first time ever that the highest possible state of caution has been declared in the city, which has more than 21 million residents. The warning means schools will have to close down and construction and other industry in the capital will be limited. Smog levels are actually lower than they **have been** in recent weeks. But authorities expect an extreme amount of pollution over the coming days, and therefore **have imposed** the order to ensure safety during that time. The order will last from Tuesday morning local time until midday on Thursday, when the weather is expected to change and blow away the smog.

Moreover, the city **had already been** in a state of orange alert, which meant some construction and industry was being limited. The city **had also issued** a ruling that said cars with odd and even number plates would be stopped from driving on alternate days.



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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Last week, Greenpeace called on Beijing to issue a red alert, after four days of what it called "Airpocalypse". "The city is covered in a thick, choking (have severe (serious) difficulty in breathing) smog that **has covered** an area of North China the size of Spain and Beijing's most famous landmarks have been completely obscured by the yellow haze," wrote Zhang Kai on the group's blog.

Greenpeace praised the Orange Alert that had been declared for putting restrictions on construction and industry, but said that it was "clearly not enough".

"At this level of response with orange alert, schools and kindergartens can remain open, meaning that children are risking their health in order to attend class and car emissions haven't been restricted at all," the group wrote.

by Andrew Griffin, adapted from The Independent, 07 December 2015

1. What **new restrictions** did the Chinese government impose to protect people from the deadly air?
2. Why did the authorities **declare a red alert** despite lower pollution levels?
3. What **restrictions** did the authorities **impose** before the red alert?
4. Why did Greenpeace feel China's orange alert restrictions were not enough?
3. **Match the verbs on the left to the nouns on the right to form a collocation from the text.**

1. **Declare** (2 places)	a. An order
2. **Go into**	b. A red alert
3. **Impose**	c. A state of caution
4. **Issue**	d. Car emissions
5. **Restrict**	e. Shutdown



4. **Make a sentence with each collocation about the text. It can be either a question or a statement** (positive or negative).
5. **Read the sentences and answer the questions below.**

Beijing **has issued** its first ever "red alert" over the city's smog,[..]

Smog levels are actually lower than they **have been** in recent weeks.

But authorities expect an extreme amount of pollution over the coming days, and therefore **have imposed** the order to ensure safety during that time

"[..], choking smog that **has covered** an area of North China the size of Spain

Did this happen in the past?

Do we know/ care about when?

Does that experience have a connection to the present?

Is it still true today (the time of the article)?

Which timeline fits better with the sentences above?

Subj.+ **HAVE/HAS** + Past Participle

Subj.+ **HAVE/HAS** + Not + Past Participle

HAVE/HAS + Subj.+ + Past Participle



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Moreover, the city **had already been** in a state of orange alert,[..]

The city **had also issued** a ruling that said cars with odd and even number plates would be stopped from driving on alternate days. *(when they were in the state of orange alert, not red alert)*

Did this happen in the past?

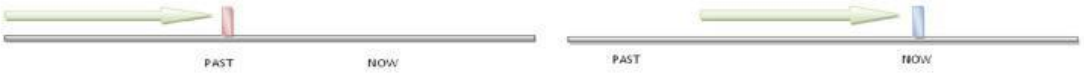
Do we know/ care about when?

Are they still in a state of orange alert (the time of the article)? Do they still have the ruling about cars?

Is it still true today (the time of the article)?

Which timeline fits better with the sentences above?

Subj.+ **HAD** + Past Participle
Subj.+ **HAD** + Not + Past Participle
HAD + Subj.+ + Past Participle



6. Chose a sentence that best describes the grammar tense and choose the correct tense.

Beijing **has issued** its first ever "red alert" over the city's smog,[..]

Smog levels are actually lower than they **have been** in recent weeks.

Moreover, the city **had already been** in a state of orange alert,[..]

Last week, Greenpeace called on Beijing to issue a red alert, after four days of what it called "Airpocalypse".



1. We often use the PAST SIMPLE / PRESENT PERFECT / PAST PERFECT when we give 'new information', for example when we report an event that happened a short time ago.
Example:

_____

2. We often use the PAST SIMPLE / PRESENT PERFECT / PAST PERFECT to talk about a situation that began in the past and continues up to the present or future.
Example:

_____

Beijing **has issued** its first ever "red alert" over the city's smog,[..]

Smog levels are actually lower than they **have been** in recent weeks.

Moreover, the city **had already been** in a state of orange alert,[..]

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Last week, Greenpeace called on Beijing to issue a red alert, after four days of what it called "Airpocalypse".



3. We often use the <u>PAST SIMPLE / PRESENT PERFECT / PAST PERFECT</u> to talk about past actions or situations that happened before a specific time in the past.
Example:

_____

Beijing **has issued** its first ever "red alert" over the city's smog,[..]

Smog levels are actually lower than they **have been** in recent weeks.

Moreover, the city **had already been** in a state of orange alert,[..]

Last week, Greenpeace called on Beijing to issue a red alert, after four days of what it called "Airpocalypse".



4. We use the <u>PAST SIMPLE / PRESENT PERFECT / PAST PERFECT</u> to talk about a completed event in the past.
Example:

_____

7. Fill the table with the correct forms of irregular verbs.

Base / infinitive	Past	Past participle		Base / infinitive	Past	Past participle
Be				Leave	left	
Break		broken		Let	let	
Buy	bought			Lose		lost
Come	came			Make	made	
Deal		dealt		Meet		met
Do				Mean	meant	

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Drive	**drove**			**Put**		**put**
Eat		**eaten**		**Run**		**run**
Feel	**felt**			**Say**		**said**
Find		**found**		**See**	**saw**	
Fly		**flown**		**Sell**		**sold**
Get		**gotten**		**Sit**	**sat**	
Give	**gave**			**Stand**	**stood**	
Grow	**grew**			**Shoot**		**shot**
Have				**Shut**		**shut**
Hear	**heard**			**Take**		**taken**
Keep		**kept**		**Tell**	**told**	
Know		**known**		**Think**		**thought**



8. Complete the sentences in Past Simple.

1) Smog, a hazardous combination of smoke and fog, ___*blanketed*___ (blanket) many cities in the past.
2) Industrial emissions, such as those from factories and power plants, _____ (be) the primary culprits behind the smog problem in urban areas.
3) In the 1950s and 1960s, major cities like Los Angeles and London _____(experience) severe smog episodes.
4) Citizens _____ (struggle) with poor visibility, respiratory problems, and a persistent acrid smell in the air.
5) Regulations and laws _____ (aim) at controlling air pollution were introduced to combat the smog crisis.
6) In response to smog-related health concerns, people _____ (begin) to advocate for cleaner energy sources and stricter emission standards.
7) The Clean Air Act, _____(enact) in the United States in 1963, _____(play) a crucial role in reducing smog levels over time.
8) The introduction of catalytic converters in automobiles _____ (be) a significant milestone in reducing smog-producing emissions.

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9. Complete the sentences in Present perfect. Something in the past connected with present. – *up until now/ today*



1) Through these efforts and technological advancements, many cities _____ successfully _____(reduce) their smog levels, resulting in improved air quality and public health.
2) Smog _____ long _____ (be) a persistent problem in urban areas around the world.
3) Over the years, the causes of smog _____(evolve), with industrial emissions and vehicle exhaust contributing significantly.
4) Many major cities _____(experience) smog episodes that _____(affect) the health and well-being of their residents.
5) Efforts to combat smog have been ongoing, and governments _____(implement) a variety of measures.
6) Scientists and policymakers _____(research) and _____(develop) innovative solutions to mitigate the smog issue.
7) The public _____ (become) increasingly aware of the environmental and health consequences of smog.
8) Many regions _____ (see) improvements in air quality, thanks to these collective actions and interventions.
9) In recent years, the focus _____ (shift) toward sustainable energy sources and green initiatives to further reduce the impact of smog on our environment.

10. Complete the sentences in Past Perfect. Something happened in the past before something else happened in the past.



1) By the time people recognized the severity of the smog problem, it _____ already _____(affect) the health of many urban residents.
2) Citizens _____ (complain) about the thick smog covering the city long before the government took action.
3) The impact of smog on visibility and air quality _____ (worsen) over the years.
4) Many cities _____ (experience) smog-related health issues before any significant changes occurred.
5) By the time clean energy initiatives gained traction, smog _____ already _____(cause) substantial damage to the environment.
6) Residents _____(resort) to wearing masks to protect themselves from the harmful effects of smog.
7) Public awareness of smog's dangers _____ (grow) gradually, leading to demands for better air quality.

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8) Before technological advancements reduced smog emissions, the problem _____(be) a major concern in urban areas.

11. Complete the dialogue.

James: _____ you _____ (hear) about the "red alert" that has been issued for Beijing due to the smog?

Sarah: Yes, I'_____ (hear) about it. It's the first time they'_____ ever_____ (do) it, isn't it?

Lucy: That's right. The air quality _____ (be) terrible.

Sarah: _____they also _____ (shut, negative) down schools and businesses for the time being?

James: Yes, although smog levels _____ (go) down recently authorities have been expecting a significant increase in pollution.

Sarah: So, they'_____ (put) these measures in place for a short time. I wonder if it _____ (help).

Lucy: They had an orange alert before, which meant some restrictions on construction and driving.

Sarah: Yes, they _____ (issue) this rule about cars with odd and even number plates.

James: Greenpeace _____(call) for a red alert after what they called "Airpocalypse" last week.

Sarah: I'_____ (see) pictures of the city landmarks hidden by smog. It must have been bad, hasn't it?

Lucy: Let's hope these steps _____(make) a positive difference in the air quality, shall we?

Now complete the sentences below.

1. The president _____(announce) his resignation. Everyone is talking about it.
2. This is the third time I _____ (have to) tell him about the problem. He just doesn't listen.
3. He's a terrible driver. He _____ (have) five accidents in the past few months.
4. _____ (you/mention) my problem during your meeting this morning?
5. It was my first time in Ireland. I _____ (never/be) there before.
6. The bond between humans and dogs _____ (exist) for thousands of years.
7. When you called me, I _____ (just/finish) taking a bath.
8. It's the second time I _____ (visit) Cairo. I _____ (come) here on a business trip last year.
9. Yesterday, I _____ (relax) all day long. I _____ (not/have) a day off in months.

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