

VERB TENSES



Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Identify the tenses, then match them to the correct description.

- 1 The plane to Sydney **leaves** at eleven o'clock.
- 2 I **have written** two letters this morning.
- 3 They **'re going** on holiday on Saturday.
- 4 Graham **has known** Errol for five years.
- 5 You **'re always leaving** the door open.
- 6 We **are rehearsing** a new play at the moment.
- 7 George **has bought** a new car.
- 8 Lisa **has been cleaning** the house all morning.
- 9 Look! Alison **has dyed** her hair!
- 10 More and more people **are recycling** their rubbish.

- a actions which started in the past and continue up to the present
- b action which has recently finished and whose result is visible in the present
- c to put emphasis on the duration of an action which started in the past and continues up to the present
- d to express criticism or annoyance
- e timetables and programmes
- f actions that we have arranged to do in the near future
- g action which has happened within a specific time period which is not over at the moment of speaking
- h action which happened at an unstated time in the past
- i changing or developing situations
- j temporary actions

2 Read the text below and chose the correct word for each space.

Robinson Crusoe has been stuck on a desert island for the past six months. Here is a letter he wrote and put in a bottle:

Dear Anybody,

I 1) been on this island 2) six months now. It is a miracle that I 3) for this long. I 4) fish and fruit since I got here. Fortunately, I haven't seen any dangerous animals 5) When I arrived here the weather was fine but it 6) continuously for the past two weeks. I've built a shelter out of sticks and leaves, which is really quite cosy. My main problem is loneliness as I haven't 7) to anyone for so long. I've been thinking of building a boat and trying to escape. Please help me.

R. Crusoe

1 A am	B is	C was	D have
2 A since	B for	C just	D already
3 A survive	B 'm surviving	C 've survived	D 've been surviving
4 A 've been eating	B 'm eating	C eat	D 've eaten
5 A often	B usually	C yet	D always
6 A 's raining	B 's rained	C rains	D 's been raining
7 A speak	B spoken	C speaks	D spoke

3 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense.

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Dear Kathleen,

I 1) ... *'m writing* ... (write) to tell you my news. My school 2) (choose) me to spend six weeks at a school in the USA. I'm very happy about it!

At the moment, I 3) (pack) things for my trip, because I 4) (leave) next week. My mother 5) (book) the ticket.

I 6) (wait) for this opportunity for ages, so I'm very excited. I 7) (finish) reading two books about the USA and I 8) (borrow) another one from the school library. I 9) (become) more and more nervous every day!

Well, I must go now. I've got a lot of things to do. I'll write to you from the USA.



Love,
Tracy



Writing Activity

Imagine you are on holiday. Write an email to your English pen friend. In your email write:

- where you are
- who you are with
- where you are staying
- what the weather is like
- what you have / haven't done

Use Ex. 17 as a model.

Dear

How are you? I from We're staying at

The weather here is Right now, Mum and Dad I It's so exciting!

We yet but we Tomorrow, we We're looking forward to it.

See you soon.

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