PRESENT TENSES

Compare the verb forms in each group of sentences and answer the questions.

1 a The Indian soap began over 1,250 episodes ago.
b The Indian soap has begun over 1,250 episodes ago.
c Hurry up! The Indian soap has just begun.
1 Which sentence is wrong? _____

2 a They've already watched 1,000 episodes of *Lindenstrasse*.
b They've been watching *Lindenstrasse* since it began.
1 Which sentence emphasises the duration of the activity? _____
2 Which sentence emphasises a number or result? _____

3 a How long have you been watching *América*?
b Have you ever watched *América*?
1 Which question asks about an activity which started in the past and continues in the present? _____
2 Which question asks about an experience which happened sometime in the past? _____

WRITE YOUR ANSWER IN CAPITAL LETTERS, PLEASE! DO NOT USE CONTRACTIONS!

Read this conversation from Part 1 of the *First* Speaking test. Complete the conversation with the correct present form of the verbs.

A: First of all I'd like to know something about you, Dorota. Where (1) _____ (you / be) from?
B: Poland. I (2) _____ (live) in a small town called Nowy Targ.
A: And how long (3) _____ (you / live) there?
B: I (4) _____ (live) there all my life, though I (5) _____ (study) English in Torun at the moment.
A: (6) _____ (you / ever / study) any other languages?
B: Yes. I (7) _____ (learn) German for two years when I was at school.
A: OK. So what (8) _____ (you and your family / enjoy) doing at home?
B: We all (9) _____ (like) skiing. My family always (10) _____ (go) skiing each winter in a place called Zakopane which is near us.
A: And what's the most exciting thing you (11) _____ (ever / do)?
B: Oh, that's a difficult question. Erm … well, currently I (12) _____ (take) a course in paragliding.