

Complete the five fill-in the-blanks texts to practice the five basic tenses (present simple, present progressive, past simple, past progressive, and future simple (will and be going to). Use the time expressions and the context to help you.

Exercise 1: A Surprise Party

Last Saturday, Emma _____ (decide) to throw a surprise party for her best friend, Lily. She _____ (call) all of their friends and _____ (ask) them to come early. While Emma _____ (decorate) the living room, her brother _____ (blow) up balloons.

At 6 PM, everyone _____ (hide) behind the couch and _____ (wait) for Lily to arrive. As soon as she _____ (open) the door, everyone _____ (shout), "Surprise!" Lily _____ (not / expect) it at all, and she _____ (start) laughing.

While we _____ (eat) the cake, the lights suddenly _____ (go) out, and everyone _____ (scream). It turned out that someone had leaned against the light switch by accident!

Right now, she _____ (look) at the pictures from the party and _____ (smile). She _____ (love) how everyone worked together to make it special.

Next year, Emma _____ (plan) another party, but this time, she _____ (invite) even more friends.

Exercise 2: A Strange Dream

Last night, I _____ (have) a very strange dream. I _____ (walk) through a dark forest when suddenly, I _____ (hear) a noise behind me. I _____ (turn) around and _____ (see) a small glowing creature. It _____ (not / look) scary, so I _____ (try) to talk to it.

While I _____ (speak), the creature suddenly _____ (grow) wings and _____ (fly) away. I _____ (run) after it, but I _____ (trip) over a tree root and _____ (fall).

While I _____ (lie) on the ground, the creature _____ (return) and _____ (whisper) something in a strange language before disappearing again.

Right now, I _____ (sit) in class and _____ (think) about my dream. My teacher _____ (explain) something, but I _____ (not / listen) because I can't stop wondering about what it meant.

Tonight, I _____ (go) to bed early because I _____ (hope) to dream about the creature again.

Exercise 3: A School Project

Every year, our teacher _____ (give) us a big project for science class. This time, we _____ (work) in pairs to build a model of the solar system. My partner, Tom, _____ (love) space, so he _____ (do) most of the research.

Yesterday, we _____ (go) to the library and _____ (find) some great books about planets. While Tom _____ (read) about Jupiter, I _____ (take) notes on Mars.

While we _____ (walk) home, it suddenly _____ (start) raining, and all of our notes _____ (get) wet!

Right now, we _____ (look) for materials to build our model. Tom _____ (hold) a small foam ball and _____ (say), "This will be Earth!"

Tomorrow, we _____ (buy) more materials, and next week, we _____ (present) our project in front of the class.

Exercise 4: A Busy Morning (*Revised*)

Right now, my mom _____ (make) breakfast while my dad _____ (read) the newspaper. My little sister _____ (look) for her backpack because she _____ (forget) where she put it last night.

Yesterday morning, we _____ (wake) up late because our alarm clock _____ (not / ring). We _____ (rush) to get dressed and _____ (run) to the bus stop, but we _____ (miss) the bus. While we _____ (wait) for the next one, my sister _____ (complain) about her heavy backpack.

While I _____ (tie) my shoes, my phone suddenly _____ (ring), and I _____ (drop) my bag in surprise.

Usually, my mom _____ (say), "If you prepare your things the night before, mornings _____ (be) easier." I _____ (think) she's right!

Tomorrow, I _____ (wake) up early, and I _____ (help) my sister get ready on time.

Exercise 5: A Day at the Beach

Every summer, my family _____ (go) to the beach. We usually _____ (arrive) early in the morning to find a good spot. My dad always _____ (bring) a big umbrella, and my mom _____ (pack) sandwiches for lunch.

Yesterday, we _____ (have) a fantastic time at the beach! While I _____ (swim) in the ocean, my brother _____ (build) a huge sandcastle. Suddenly, a big wave _____ (crash) onto the shore and _____ (destroy) his castle. He _____ (not / be) happy about that!

While my mom _____ (read) a book, a seagull suddenly _____ (fly) down and _____ (steal) her sandwich!

Right now, we _____ (sit) in the car on our way home. My sister _____ (listen) to music, and my parents _____ (talk) about where we should go next weekend.

Next time, we _____ (try) a different beach, and I _____ (bring) a camera to take more pictures.

Exercise 6: The School Play

Every year, our school _____ (put) on a big play. The students _____ (act) in different roles, and the teachers _____ (help) with costumes and set design. Everyone _____ (love) the excitement of getting ready for the performance.

Last week, we _____ (start) rehearsals. While some students _____ (practice) their lines, others _____ (paint) the backdrop for the stage. Suddenly, the director _____ (stop) us and _____ (say), "We need to work on our timing!"

While I _____ (rehearse) my lines, my friend accidentally _____ (drop) a prop, and it _____ (break) into pieces.

Right now, I _____ (stand) backstage, waiting for my scene. My best friend _____ (hold) the script and _____ (whisper) the lines to herself. We both _____ (feel) a little nervous!

Next Friday, we _____ (perform) in front of our families, and I _____ (hope) everything goes well.