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EXERCISES

Present Perfect Simple / Continuous

Complete the sentences with correct form of the verbs. Use the Present Perfect Simple or Continuous. Use short forms where possible.

- 1 How long _____ flu? (*have*)
- 2 We _____ the house all morning. (*clean*)
- 3 I _____ abroad for a year, but now I'm going home. (*live*)
- 4 Ouch! I _____ my finger on the oven!. (*burn*)
- 5 Alan _____ French since September. (*learn*)
- 6 How long _____ Jim? (*you go out with*)

Present Perfect / Present Perfect Continuous

Robin: I think the waiter (forget) _____ us. We (wait) _____ here for over half an hour and nobody (take) _____ our order yet.

Michele: I think you're right. He (walk) _____ by us at least twenty times. He probably thinks we (order, already) _____.

Robin: Look at that couple over there, they (be, only) _____ here for five or ten minutes and they already have their food.

Michele: He must realize we (order, not) _____ yet! We (sit) _____ here for over half an hour staring at him.

Robin: I don't know if he (notice, even) _____ us. He (run) _____ from table to table taking orders and serving food.

Michele: That's true, and he (look, not) _____ in our direction once.

Present Continuous / Present Perfect Continuous

Mr. Smith: So tell me a little bit about yourself, Mr. Harris. I would like to find out a little bit more about your background.

Mr. Harris: I (work) _____ in the insurance industry for over ten years. I worked for Met Life for six years and World Insurance for four and a half. During that time, I heard many good things about Hollings Life Insurance and that's why I (apply) _____ for the new sales position.

Mr. Smith: Tell me a little about your hobbies and interests.

Mr. Harris: In my spare time, I hike in the mountains outside of town, volunteer at the Sierra Club and play tennis. In fact, I (compete) _____ in a tennis tournament this weekend.

Mr. Smith: Really, how long (you, play) _____ tennis ?

Mr. Harris: I (play) _____ since high school. I love the sport.

Mr. Smith: Great! We like dedication here at Hollings Life. You mentioned you volunteer at the Sierra Club. I (work, currently) _____ with them on the sea turtle project. We (try) _____ to create a wildlife sanctuary near the bay.

Mr. Harris: Do you know Frank Harris? He's my brother. He (work, presently) _____ on the same project.

Mr. Smith: I know Frank quite well. Any brother of Frank's would be a welcome addition to Hollings Life. Just one more thing, we (look) _____ for somebody who is fluent in Spanish; many of our clients are from Mexico.

Mr. Harris: No problem. I (study) _____ Spanish since elementary school.

Mr. Smith: Sounds like you are the perfect candidate.

Present Continuous / Present Perfect Continuous

1. It (rain) _____ all week. I hope it stops by Saturday because I want to go to the beach.

2. A: Where is Gary?

B: He (study, at the library) _____ for his German test on Wednesday. In fact, he (review) _____ for the test every day for the last week.

3. You look really great! (You, exercise) _____ at the fitness center ?

4. Frank, where have you been? We (wait) _____ for you since 1 P.M..

5. A: What is that sound?

B: A car alarm (ring) _____ somewhere down the street. It (drive) _____ me crazy - I wish it would stop! It (ring) _____ for more than twenty minutes.

6. Joseph's English (improve, really) _____, isn't it? He (watch) _____ American television programs and (study) _____ his grammar every day since he first arrived in San Diego. Soon he will be totally fluent.

7. A: You look a little tired. (You, get) _____ enough sleep lately?

B: Yes, I (sleep) _____ relatively well. I just look tired because I (feel) _____ a little sick for the last week.

A: I hope you feel better soon.

B: Thanks. I (take, currently) _____ some medicine, so I should feel better in a couple of days.

Simple Past / Present Perfect

1. A: Did you like the movie "Star Wars"?

B: I don't know. I (see, never) _____ that movie.

2. Sam (arrive) _____ in San Diego a week ago.
3. My best friend and I (know) _____ each other for over fifteen years. We still get together once a week.
4. Stinson is a fantastic writer. He (write) _____ ten very creative short stories in the last year. One day, he'll be as famous as Hemingway.
5. I (have, not) _____ this much fun since I (be) _____ a kid.
6. Things (change) _____ a great deal at Coltech, Inc. When we first (start) _____ working here three years ago, the company (have, only) _____ six employees. Since then, we (expand) _____ to include more than 2000 full-time workers.
7. I (tell) _____ him to stay on the path while he was hiking, but he (wander) _____ off into the forest and (be) _____ bitten by a snake.
8. Listen Donna, I don't care if you (miss) _____ the bus this morning. You (be) _____ late to work too many times. You are fired!
9. Sam is from Colorado, which is hundreds of miles from the coast, so he (see, never) _____ the ocean. He should come with us to Miami.
10. How sad! George (dream) _____ of going to California before he died, but he didn't make it. He (see, never) _____ the ocean.
11. In the last hundred years, traveling (become) _____ much easier and very comfortable. In the 19th century, it (take) _____ two or three months to cross North America by covered wagon. The trip (be) _____ very rough and often dangerous. Things (change) _____ a great deal in the last hundred and fifty years. Now you can fly from New York to Los Angeles in a matter of hours.
12. Jonny, I can't believe how much you (change) _____ since the last time I (see) _____ you. You (grow) _____ at least a foot!
13. This tree (be) _____ planted by the settlers who (found) _____ our city over four hundred years ago.
14. This mountain (be, never) _____ climbed by anyone. Several mountaineers (try) _____ to reach the top, but nobody (succeed, ever) _____. The climb is extremely difficult and many people (die) _____ trying to reach the summit.
15. I (visit, never) _____ Africa, but I (travel) _____ to South America several times. The last time I (go) _____ to South America, I (visit) _____ Brazil and Peru. I (spend) _____ two weeks in the Amazon, (hike) _____ for a week near Machu Picchu, and (fly) _____ over the Nazca Lines.

Simple Past / Present Perfect

Since computers were first introduced to the public in the early 1980's, technology (change) _____ a great deal. The first computers (be) _____ simple machines designed for basic tasks. They (have, not) _____ much memory and they (be, not) _____ very powerful. Early computers were often quite expensive and customers often (pay) _____ thousands of dollars for machines which actually (do) _____ very little. Most computers (be) _____ separate, individual

machines used mostly as expensive typewriters or for playing games. Times (change) _____. Computers (become) _____ powerful machines with very practical applications. Programmers (create) _____ a large selection of useful programs which do everything from teaching foreign languages to bookkeeping. We are still playing video games, but today's games (become) _____ faster, more exciting interactive adventures. Many computer users (get, also) _____ on the Internet and (begin) _____ communicating with other computer users around the world. We (start) _____ to create international communities online. In short, the simple, individual machines of the past (evolve) _____ into an international World Wide Web of knowledge.

Present Perfect / Present Perfect Continuous

1. A: How long (be) _____ in Canada?
B: I (study) _____ here for more than three years.
2. I (have) _____ the same car for more than ten years. I'm thinking about buying a new one.
3. I (love) _____ chocolate since I was a child. You might even call me a "chocoholic".
4. Matt and Sarah (have) _____ some difficulties in their relationship lately, so they (go) _____ to a marriage counselor. I hope they work everything out.
5. John (work) _____ for the government since he graduated from Harvard University. Until recently, he (enjoy) _____ his work, but now he is talking about retiring.
6. Lately, I (think) _____ about changing my career because I (become) _____ dissatisfied with the conditions at my company.
7. I (see) _____ Judy for more than five years and during that time I have (see) _____ many changes in her personality.