

## Verb Tenses Tutorial Exercise 1

### *Simple Present / Present Continuous*

1. Every Monday, Sally (drive) ..... her kids to football practice.
2. Usually, I (work) ..... as a secretary at ABT, but this summer I (study) ..... French at a language school in Paris. That is why I am in Paris.
3. Shhhhh! Be quiet! John (sleep) ..... 4. Don't forget to take your umbrella. It (rain) .....
5. I hate living in Seattle because it (rain, always) ..... 6. I'm sorry I can't hear what you (say) ..... because everybody (talk) ..... so loudly.
7. Justin (write, currently) ..... a book about his adventures in Tibet. I hope he can find a good publisher when he is finished.
8. Do you want to come over for dinner tonight. Oh, I'm sorry, I can't. I (go) ..... to a movie tonight with some friends.
9. The business cards (be, normally) ..... printed by a company in New York. Their prices (be) ..... inexpensive, yet the quality of their work is quite good.
10. This delicious chocolate (be) ..... made by a small chocolatier in Zurich, Switzerland.

## Verb Tenses Tutorial Exercise 2

### *Simple Present / Present Continuous*

Today (be) ..... the second day of my trek around Mount Annapurna. I am exhausted and my legs (shake) .....; I just hope I am able to complete the trek. My feet (kill, really) ..... me and my toes (bleed) ....., but I (want, still) ..... to continue. Nepal is a fascinating country, but I have a great deal to learn. Everything (be) ..... so different, and I (try) ..... to adapt to the new way of life here. I (learn) ..... a little bit of the language to make communication easier; unfortunately, I (learn, not) ..... foreign languages quickly. Although I (understand, not) ..... much yet, I believe that I (improve, gradually) .....

I (travel, currently) ..... with Liam, a student from Leeds University in England. He (be) ..... a nice guy, but impatient. He (walk, always) ..... ahead of me and (complain) ..... that I am too slow. I (do) ..... my best to keep up with him, but he is younger and stronger than I am. Maybe, I am just feeling sorry for myself because I am getting old.

Right now, Liam (sit) ..... with the owner of the inn. They (discuss) ..... the differences between life in England and life in Nepal. I (know, not) ..... the real name of the owner, but everybody (call, just) ..... him Tam. Tam (speak) ..... English very well and he (try) ..... to teach Liam some words in Nepali. Every time Tam (say) ..... a new word, Liam (try) ..... to repeat it. Unfortunately, Liam (seem, also) ..... to have difficulty learning foreign languages. I just hope we don't get lost and have to ask for directions.

### Verb Tenses Tutorial Exercise 3

#### Simple Past / Past Continuous

1. A: What (you, do) ..... when the accident occurred?  
B: I (try) ..... to change a light bulb that had burnt out.
2. After I (find) ..... the wallet full of money, I (go, immediately) ..... to the police and (turn) ..... it in.
3. The doctor (say) ..... that Tom (be) ..... too sick to go to work and that he (need) ..... to stay at home for a couple of days.
4. Sebastian (arrive) ..... at Susan's house a little before 9:00 pm, but she (be, not) ..... there. She (study, at the library) ..... for her final examination in French.
5. Sandy is in the living room watching television. At this time yesterday, she (watch, also) ..... television. That's all she ever does!
6. A: I (call) ..... you last night after dinner, but you (be, not) ..... there. Where were you?  
B: I (work) ..... out at the fitness center.
7. When I (walk) ..... into the busy office, the secretary (talk) ..... on the phone with a customer, several clerks (work, busily) ..... at their desks, and two managers (discuss, quietly) ..... methods to improve customer service.
8. I (watch) ..... a mystery movie on T.V. when the electricity went out. Now I am never going to find out how the movie ends.
9. Sharon (be) ..... in the room when John (tell) ..... me what had happened, but she didn't hear anything because she (listen, not) .....
10. It's strange that you (call) ..... because I (think, just) ..... about you.
11. The Titanic (cross) ..... the Atlantic when it (strike) ..... an iceberg.
12. When I entered the bazaar, a couple of merchants (bargain, busily) ..... and (try) ..... to sell their goods to naive tourists who (hunt) ..... for souvenirs. Some young boys (lead) ..... their donkeys through the narrow streets on their way home. A couple of men (argue) ..... over the price of a leather belt. I (walk) ..... over to a man who (sell) ..... fruit and (buy) ..... a banana.
13. The firemen (rescue) ..... the old woman who (be) ..... trapped on the third floor of the burning building.
14. She was so annoying! She (leave, always) ..... her dirty dishes in the sink. I think she (expect, actually) ..... me to do them for her.
15. Samantha (live) ..... in Berlin for more than two years. In fact, she (live) ..... there when the Berlin wall came down.

2.

### Verb Tenses Tutorial Exercise 4

#### Simple Past / Past Continuous

Last night, while I was doing my homework, Angela (call) ..... She said she (call) ..... me on her cell phone from her biology classroom at UCLA. I asked her if she (wait) ..... for class, but she said that the professor was at the front of the hall lecturing while she (talk) ..... to me. I couldn't believe she (make) ..... a phone call during the lecture. I asked what was going on. She said her biology professor was so boring that several of the students (sleep, actually) ..... in class. Some of the students (talk) ..... about their plans for the weekend and the student next to her (draw) ..... a picture of a horse. When Angela (tell) ..... me she was not satisfied with the class, I (mention) ..... that my biology professor was quite good and (suggest) ..... that she switch to my class. While we were talking, I (hear) ..... her professor yell, "Miss, are you making a phone call?" Suddenly, the line went dead. I (hang) ..... up the phone and went to the kitchen to make dinner. As I (cut) ..... vegetables for a salad, the phone rang once again. It (be) ..... Angela, but this time she (not sit) ..... in class.

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## Verb Tenses Tutorial Exercise 5

### *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 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.

## Focus on Verbs Exercise 6

### *Simple Past / Present Perfect*

1. 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.

2. 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.

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### Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 7

#### *Present Perfect / Present Perfect Continuous*

1. 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) ..... He (run)..... from table to table taking orders and serving food.

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

### Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 8

#### *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.

### Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 9

#### *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.

## Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 10

### *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.

## Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 11

### *Simple Past / Past Perfect*

I can't believe I (get) .....that apartment. I (submit) ..... my application last week, but I didn't think I had a chance of actually getting it. When I (show) ..... up to take a look around, there were at least twenty other people who (arrive) ..... before me. Most of them (fill, already) ..... out their applications and were already leaving. The landlord said I could still apply, so I did. I (try) ..... to fill out the form, but I couldn't answer half of the questions. They (want) ..... me to include references, but I didn't want to list my previous landlord because I (have) ..... some problems with him and I knew he wouldn't recommend me. I (end) ..... up listing my father as a reference. It was total luck that he (decide) ..... to give me the apartment. It turns out that the landlord and my father (go) ..... to high school together. He decided that I could have the apartment before he (look) .....at my credit report. I really lucked out!

## Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 12

### *Simple Past / Present Perfect / Past Perfect*

1. When I (arrive) ..... home last night, I discovered that Jane (prepare) ..... a beautiful candle-lit dinner.
2. Since I began acting, I (perform) ..... in two plays, a television commercial and a TV drama. However, I (speak, never even) ..... publicly before I came to Hollywood in 1985.
3. By the time I got to the office, the meeting (begin, already) ..... without me. My boss (be) ..... furious with me and I (be) ..... fired.
4. When I (turn) ..... the radio on yesterday, I (hear) ..... a song that was popular when I was in high school. I (hear, not) .....he song in years, and it (bring) .....back some great memories.
5. Last week, I (run) ..... into an ex-girlfriend of mine. We (see, not) ..... each other in years, and both of us (change) ..... a great deal. I (enjoy) ..... talking to her so much that I (ask) ..... her out on a date. We are getting together tonight for dinner.
6. When Jack (enter) ..... the room, I (recognize, not) ..... him be-

cause he (lose) .....so much weight and (grow) ..... a beard. He looked totally different!  
7. The Maya established a very advanced civilization in the jungles of the Yucatan; however, their culture (disappear, virtually) ..... by the time Europeans first (arrive) ..... in the New World.

8. I (visit) ..... so many beautiful places since I (come) ..... to Utah. Before moving here, I (hear, never) ..... of Bryce Canyon, Zion, Arches or Canyonlands.

### **Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 13**

#### ***Past Perfect / Past Perfect Continuous***

I'm sorry I left without you last night, but I told you to meet me early because the show started at 8:00. I (try) ..... to get tickets for that play for months, and I didn't want to miss it. By the time I finally left the coffee shop where we were supposed to meet, I (have) ..... five cups of coffee and I (wait) ..... over an hour. I had to leave because I (arrange) ..... to meet Kathy in front of the theater.

When I arrived at the theater, Kathy (pick, already) ..... up the tickets and she was waiting for us near the entrance. She was really angry because she (wait) ..... for more than half an hour. She said she (give, almost) ..... up and (go) .....into the theater without us.

Kathy told me you (be) ..... late several times in the past and that she would not make plans with you again in the future. She mentioned that she (miss) ..... several movies because of your late arrivals. I think you owe her an apology. And in the future, I suggest you be on time! several movies because of your late arrivals. I think you owe her an apology.

### **Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 14**

#### ***Present Perfect / Past Perfect***

#### ***Present Perfect Continuous / Past Perfect Continuous***

1. It is already 9:30 pm and I (wait) .....here for over an hour. If John does not get here in the next five minutes, I am going to leave.

2. I was really angry at John yesterday. By the time he finally arrived, I (wait) ..... for over an hour. I almost left without him.

3. Did you hear that Ben was fired last month? He (work) ..... for that import company for more than ten years and he (work) .....in almost every department. Nobody knew the company like he did.

4. I (see) ..... many pictures of the pyramids before I went to Egypt. Pictures of the monuments are very misleading. The pyramids are actually quite small.

5. Sarah (climb) ..... the Matterhorn, (sail) .....around the world, and (go) ..... on safari in Kenya. She is such an adventurous person.

6. Sarah (climb) ..... the Matterhorn, (sail) .....around the world and (go) ..... on safari in Kenya by the time she turned twenty-five. She (experience) ..... more by that age than most people do in their entire lives.

7. When Melanie came into the office yesterday, her eyes were red and watery. I think she (cry)

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### **Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 15**

#### ***Present Continuous / Simple Past***

#### ***Present Perfect Continuous / Past Perfect Continuous***

My English is really getting better. I (try) ..... to learn the language since 1985, but only recently have I been able to make some real progress. By the time I started high school in 1988, I (study) ..... the language for almost three years; however, I was only able to introduce myself and utter a few memorized sentences. For a couple more years, I (struggle) .....through grammar and vocabulary lessons, which made absolutely no difference. Nothing worked, so I decided to study abroad. I found an exchange program in England that sounded like the perfect answer. I (stay) ..... with a host family for one month. It was a huge disappointment! I (sit) ..... there the whole time staring at the host mother and father hoping that there would be some breakthrough. Nothing. When I returned, I mentioned to a friend that I (have) ..... problems with the language for years. He recommended that I spend a year in an English speaking country. I decided to go abroad again. I (research) ..... exchange programs for a couple of weeks and finally decided on a school in the

United States.

Well, it worked. I (live) ..... and (study) ..... in the U.S. for more than two years. I (stay) ..... here for at least another year before I return home. By then, I should be completely fluent.

### Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 16

#### *Present and Past Tenses and Non-Continuous Verbs*

- 1.a. Look, I (have) ..... two tickets for the circus.
- 1.b. Look, I (hold) ..... two tickets for the circus.
- 2.a. We (be) ..... there for more than half an hour by the time the show began.
- 2.b. We (wait) ..... there for more than half an hour by the time the show began.
- 3.a. Sam (sit) ..... in the seat next to me when the clown threw a bucket of water at me.
- 3.b. Sam (be) ..... in the seat next to me when the clown threw a bucket of water at me.
- 4.a. One clown was juggling while he (balance) ..... a glass of wine on his head.
- 4.b. One clown was juggling while he (have) ..... a glass of wine on his head.
- 5.a. I (love) ..... the circus ever since I was a child.
- 5.b. I (go) ..... to the circus ever since I was a child.
- 6.a. Right now, I (see) ..... two elephants doing tricks in the ring.
- 6.b. Right now, I (look) ..... at two elephants doing tricks in the ring.

### Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 17

#### *Present and Past Tense Review*

Lars: Excuse me, which movie are you waiting for?

Tony: We (wait) ..... for the new Stars Wars Phantom Menace movie. In fact, we (wait) ..... here for more than five hours.

Lars: Five hours? When did you arrive?

Tony: We (get) got here at 6:00 o'clock this morning. More than forty people (stand,already) ..... here waiting for tickets when we arrived.

Lars: I can't believe that! Are you serious?

Tony: Yeah, people (take) ..... Star Wars movies seriously. In fact, this particular showing has been sold out for over a week. We (wait, just) ..... in line to get a good seat in the theater.

Lars: When did you buy your tickets?

Tony: I (buy) ..... them last week by phone. I (know) ..... tickets would be hard to get because I (hear) ..... on the news that a group of people in Los Angeles (wait) ..... in line for almost a month to buy some.

Lars: I don't believe that!

Tony: It's true. They (camp) ..... out in front of Mann's Chinese Theater in Los Angeles for about a month because they (want) ..... to be the first people to see the movie.

### Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 18

#### *Will / Be Going to*

1. A: Why are you holding a piece of paper?  
B: I (write) ..... a letter to my friends back home in Texas.
2. A: I'm about to fall asleep. I need to wake up!  
B: I (get) ..... you a cup of coffee. That will wake you up.
3. A: I can't hear the television!  
B: I (turn) ..... it up so you can hear it.
4. We are so excited about our trip next month to France. We (visit) ..... Paris, Nice and Grenoble.
5. Sarah (come) ..... to the party. Oliver (be)..... there as well.
6. A: It is so hot in here!  
B: I (turn) ..... the air conditioning on.
7. I think he (be) ..... the next President of the United States.
8. After I graduate, I (attend)..... medical school and become a doctor. I have wanted to be a doctor all my life.

9. A: Excuse me, I need to talk to someone about our hotel room. I am afraid it is simply too small for four people.

B: That man at the service counter (help) ..... you.

10. As soon as the weather clears up, we (walk) ..... down to the beach and go swimming.

### Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 19

#### *Will / Be Going to*

1. Mark: What are you doing with those scissors?

Beth: I (cut) ..... that picture of the ocean out of the travel magazine.

Mark: What (you, do) ..... with it?

Beth: I (paint) ..... a water color of the ocean for my art class, and I thought I could use this photograph as a model.

2. Mark: (You, do) ..... me a favor Sam?

Sam: Sure, what do you want me to do?

Mark: I (change) ..... the broken light bulb in the lamp above the dining room table. I need someone to hold the ladder for me while I am up there.

Sam: No problem, I (hold) ..... it for you.

3. Gina: Where are you going?

Ted: I (go) ..... to the store to pick up some groceries.

Gina: What (you, get) .....?

Ted: I (buy) ..... some milk, some bread, and some coffee.

4. John: Wow, it's freezing out there.

Jane: I (make) ..... some coffee to warm us up. Do you want a piece of pie as well?

John: Coffee sounds great! But I (have) ..... dinner with some friends later, so I'd better skip the pie.

Jane: I (go) ..... to dinner tonight too, but I'm having a piece of pie anyway.

5. Frank: I heard you're taking a Spanish class at the community college.

Tom: Yeah, I (go) ..... to Guatemala next spring and I thought knowing a little Spanish would make the trip easier.

Frank: I (visit) ..... my brother in Marseilles next year. Maybe I should take a French class.

Tom: I have a course catalog in the other room. I (go) ..... get it, and we can see whether or not they're offering a French course next semester.

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### Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 20

#### *Will / Be Going to*

1. Michael: Do you think the Republicans or the Democrats (win) ..... the next election?

Jane: I think the Republicans (win) ..... the next election.

John: No way! The Democrats (win) .....

2. Susan: We (go) ..... camping this weekend. Would you like to come along?

Sam: That sounds great, but I don't have a sleeping bag.

Susan: No problem. I (lend) ..... you one. My family has tons of camping gear.

3. Barbara: I (buy) ..... a new car this weekend, but I'm a little worried because I don't really know much about cars. I'm afraid the salesman (try) ..... to take advantage of me when he sees how little I know.

Dave: I used to work for a mechanic in high school and I know a lot about cars. I (go) ..... with you to make sure you are not cheated.

4. Gina: Fred and I (visit) ..... Santa Fe next summer. Have you ever been there?

Margaret: My family lives in Santa Fe! I (give) ..... you my parents' phone number. When you get to Santa Fe, just call them and they (give) ..... you a little tour of the town. They can show you some of the sights that most tourists never see.

5. Pam: Can you see my future in the crystal ball? What (happen) ..... next year?

Fortune Teller: You (meet) ..... a man from the East Coast, perhaps New York or maybe Boston. You (marry) ..... that mystery man.

Pam: Forget the man! I want to know if I (get) ..... a new job.

### Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 21



### ***Simple Present / Simple Future***

1. Today after I (get).... out of class, I (go) ..... to a movie with some friends.
2. When you (arrive) ..... in Stockholm, call my friend Gustav. He (show)..... you around the city and help you get situated.
3. A: Do you know what you want to do after you (graduate) .....?  
B: After I (receive) ..... my Master's from Georgetown University, I (go) ..... to graduate school at UCSD in San Diego. I (plan)..... to complete a Ph.D. in cognitive science.
4. If it (snow) ..... this weekend, we (go) ..... skiing near Lake Tahoe.
5. Your father (plan) ..... to pick you up after school today at 3:00 o'clock. He (meet)..... you across the street near the ice cream shop. If something happens and he cannot be there, I (pick)..... you up instead.
6. If the people of the world (stop, not) ..... cutting down huge stretches of rain forest, we (experience)..... huge changes in the environment during the twenty-first century.
7. If Vera (keep) ..... drinking, she (lose, eventually) ..... her job.
8. I promise you that I (tell, not) ..... your secret to anybody. Even if somebody (ask)..... me about what happened that day, I (reveal, not)..... the truth to a single person.
9. She (make) ..... some major changes in her life. She (quit)..... her job and go back to school. After she (finish) ..... studying, she (get)..... a better paying job and buy a house. She is going to improve her life!
10. Tom (call) ..... when he (arrive) ..... in Madrid. He (stay)..... with you for two or three days until his new apartment (be) ..... available.

### **Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 22**

#### ***Simple Present / Simple Future***

1. Michael: After you (leave) ..... work, will you please drop by the grocery store and pick up some milk.  
Marie: No problem, I (pick) ..... up the groceries and be home by 6 o'clock.  
Michael: Great. You will probably get home before I (do) .....
2. Ari: By the time we (get) ..... to the movie theater, the tickets are going to be sold out.  
Sarah: Don't worry. I told Jane we might be arriving just before the movie (start) ..... She (buy) ..... our tickets and meet us in the lobby.  
Ari: That place is huge! We (find, never) ..... her in that crowded lobby.  
Sarah: Calm down, we (meet) ..... each other near the entrance.
3. Terry: If the weather (be) ..... good tomorrow, we will go to the beach.  
Jennifer: I have a better idea. If it (be) ..... nice out, we'll go to the beach; and if it (rain)....., we'll see a movie.  
Terry: I guess we will have to wait until we (get) ..... up in the morning to find out what we are going to do.
3. Max: What are you going to do tomorrow after work?  
Sean: I (meet) ..... some friends at the cafe across the street. Would you like to come along?  
Max: No thanks! My brother is coming to town and I (pick) .....him up from the airport at 7 o'clock.  
Sean: We (be, probably) ..... at the cafe until 9 o'clock. Why don't you join us after you (pick) ..... him up.  
Max: Sounds good. We (see) ..... you around 8 o'clock.
5. Lucy: I (call) ..... you as soon as I arrive in Dublin.  
Dwain: If I am not there when you (call) ....., make sure to leave a message.  
Lucy: I will. And please don't forget to water my plants and feed the cat.  
Dwain: I promise I (take) ..... care of everything while you are in Ireland.

### **Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 23**

#### ***Simple Future / Future Continuous***

1. Sandra: Where is Tim going to meet us?  
Marcus: He (wait) ..... for us when our train arrives. I am sure he (stand) ..... on the platform when we pull into the station.

Sandra: And then what?

Marcus: We (pick) ..... Michele up at work and go out to dinner.

2. Ted: When we get to the party, Jerry (watch) ..... TV, Sam (make)..... drinks, Beth (dance) .....by herself, and Thad (complain) ..... about his day at work.

Robin: Maybe, this time they won't be doing the same things.

Ted: I am absolutely positive they (do) ..... the same things; they always do the same things.

3. Florence: Oh, look at that mountain of dirty dishes! Who (wash) .....all of those?

Jack: I promise I (do) ..... them when I get home from work.

Florence: Thanks.

Jack: When you get home this evening, that mountain will be gone and nice stacks of sparkling clean dishes (sit) ..... in the cabinets.

4 .Doug: If you need to contact me next week, I (stay) ..... at the Hoffman Hotel.

Nancy: I (call) ..... you if there are any problems.

Doug: This is the first time I have ever been away from the kids.

Nancy: Don't worry, they (be) ..... fine.

5. Samantha: Just think, next week at this time, I (lie) ..... on a tropical beach in Maui drinking Mai Tai's and eating pineapple.

Darren: While you are luxuriating on the beach, I (stress) ..... out over this marketing project. How are you going to enjoy yourself knowing that I am working so hard.

Samantha: I 'll manage somehow.

Darren: You're terrible. Can't you take me with you?

Samantha: No. But I (send) ..... you a postcard of a beautiful, white-sand beach.

Darren: Great, that (make) ..... me feel much better.

### **Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 24**

#### ***Simple Present / Simple Future***

#### ***Present Continuous / Future Continuous***

1. Right now I am watching T.V. Tomorrow at this time, I (watch) ..... T.V. as well.

2. Tomorrow after school, I (go) ..... to the beach.

3. I am going on a dream vacation to Tahiti. While you (do) ..... paperwork and (talk) .....to annoying customers on the phone, I (lie) ..... on a sunny, tropical beach. Are you jealous?

4. We (hiding) ..... when Tony (arrives) ..... at his surprise party. As soon as he opens the door, we (jump) ..... out and (scream) ..... "Surprise!"

5. We work out at the fitness center everyday after work. If you (come) .....over while we (work) .....out, we will not be able to let you into the house. Just to be safe, we (leave) ..... a key under the welcome mat so you will not have to wait outside.

6. While you (study) ..... at home, Magda (be) .....in class.

7. When I (get) .....to the party, Sally and Doug (dance) ....., John (make) .....drinks, Sue and Frank (discuss) ..... something controversial, and Mary (complain) ..... about something unimportant. They are always doing the same things. They are so predictable.

8. When you (got) ..... off the plane, I (wait) ..... for you.

9. I am sick of rain and bad weather! Hopefully, when we (wake) ..... up tomorrow morning, the sun (shine) .....

10. If you (need) ..... to contact me sometime next week, I (stay) ..... at the Sheraton in San Francisco.

### **Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 25**

#### ***Future Perfect / Future Perfect Continuous***

1. Margaret: Do you think everything will be finished when I get back from the store?

Jerry: Don't worry. By the time you get back, I (pick) ..... up the living room and (finish) .....washing the dishes. Everything will be perfect when your parents arrive.

Margaret: I hope so. They (arrive) ..... around 6 o'clock.

Jerry: Everything (be) ..... spotless by the time they get here.

2. Nick: I just have two more courses before I graduate from university. By this time next year, I (graduate) .....and I will already be looking for a job.

Stacey: Does that scare you? Are you worried about the future?

Nick: Not really. I (go) ..... to a career counselor and get some advice on how to find a good job.

Stacey: That's a good idea.

Nick: I am also going to do an internship so that when I leave school, I (complete, not, only) ..... over 13 business courses, but I (work, also) .....the real world.

3. Stan: Did you hear that Christine (take) ..... a vacation in South America this winter?

Fred: I can't believe how often she goes abroad. Where exactly does she want to go?

Stan: She (visit) .....Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador.

Fred: At this rate, she (visit) ..... every country in the world by the time she's 50.

4. Judy: How long have you been in Miami?

Elaine: I have only been here for a couple of weeks.

Judy: How long do you plan on staying?

Elaine: I love Miami, so I (stay) .....here for an extended period of time. When I go back home, I (be) ..... here for more than three months.

Judy: Wow, that's quite a vacation! You (see, definitely) ..... just about everything there is to see in Miami by then.

5. Jane: I can't believe how late we are! By the time we get to the dinner, everyone (finish) ..... eating.

Jack: It's your own fault. You took way too long in the bathroom.

Jane: I couldn't get my hair to look right.

Jack: Who cares? By the time we get there, everyone (left).....Nobody (see,ever)..... . your hair.

### **Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 26**

#### ***Future Perfect / Future Perfect Continuous***

1. By the time we get to Chicago this evening, we (drive) ..... more than four hundred miles. We are going to be exhausted.

2. When Sarah goes on vacation next month, she (study) ..... German for over two years. She should be able to communicate fairly well while she is in Austria.

3. I have not traveled much yet; however, I (visit)..... the Grand Canyon and San Francisco by the time I leave the United States.

4. By the time you finish studying the verb tense tutorial, you (master)..... all twelve tenses including their passive forms.

5. Drive faster! If you don't hurry up, she (have) ..... the baby by the time we get to the hospital.

6. I came to England six months ago. I started my economics course three months ago. When I return to Australia, I (study) ..... for nine months and I (be) ..... in England for exactly one year.

7. Margie just called and said she would be here at 8:00 o'clock. By the time she gets here, we (wait)..... for her for two hours.

8. Frank just changed jobs again. If he keeps this up, he (change) ..... jobs at least four or five times by the end of the year.

9. Come over to my house around 9 o'clock. By then, I (complete) ..... my history essay and we can go see a movie.

10. In June, my grandmother and grandfather (be) ..... married for fifty years.

### **Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 27**

#### ***Future Perfect / Future Perfect Continuous***

1. Jack: Have you been watching the Eco-Challenge on TV?

Janet: Isn't that exciting? It has got to be the most unbelievably difficult sporting event in the world.

Jack: I know. By the time they finish the course, they (raft) ..... more than 150 miles down a raging river, (hike) ..... through 80 miles of jungle, (climb) ..... a volcano and (kayak) ..... through shark-infested waters.

Janet: And don't forget that they (move) ..... for at least eight days straight.

2. Oliver: When are going to get your Bachelor degree, Anne?

Anne: I am going to finish my degree next June. By the time I graduate, I (go) ..... to four different colleges and universities, and I (study) ..... for more than seven years.

Oliver: Wow, that's a long time!

Anne: And I plan to continue on to get a Ph.D.

Oliver: Really? How long is that going to take?

Anne: By the time I finally finish studying, I (be) ..... a student for over 13 years.

3. Max: Sarah has been in the kitchen all day long.

Jake: It doesn't sound like she's having a very good Thanksgiving.

Max: She (cook) ..... for over seven hours by the time everyone arrives for dinner this afternoon. Hopefully, she (finish) ..... everything by then.

Jake: Maybe we should help her out.

4. Mike: It's 6:00, and I have been working on my essay for over three hours.

Sid: Do you think you (finish) ..... by 10:00. There's a party at Donna's tonight.

Mike: I (complete, probably) ..... the essay by 10:00, but I (work) ..... on it for more than seven hours and I don't think I am going to feel like going to a party.

5. Fred: By the time they finish their trip across Yosemite National Park, they (hike) ..... for more than six days.

Ginger: And they (be, not) in a bed or (have) ..... a shower in almost a week!

Fred: When we pick them up, they (eat) ..... camping food for days, and I am sure they will be starving.

Ginger: I think we had better plan on taking them directly to a restaurant.

### **Verb Tense Tutorial Exercise 28**

#### ***Future Continuous / Future Perfect Continuous***

1. Simona: Margaret is really going to speak Spanish well when she gets back from that language school in Mexico?

Isabelle: Hopefully! She (take) ..... classes for more than six months.

Simona: She is going to be able to speak Spanish with some of our Latin American clients.

Isabelle: Good. Two clients from Peru (visit) ..... us next month when Margaret returns. We need someone to entertain them while they are here.

2. Jason: I am leaving!

Nurse: If you would please wait, the doctor will be with you in ten minutes. The doctor is having some problems with a patient.

Jason: The doctor was having problems with that patient an hour ago. If I wait another ten minutes, I am sure he (have, still) ..... problems with her. By the time he's finally ready to see me, I (wait) ..... for more than two hours.

3. Frank: What are you going to be doing tomorrow at five?

Debbie: I (paint) ..... painting my living room walls.

Frank: Still? How long have you been working on your living room.

Debbie: Forever. By the time I finish, I (redecorate) ..... the living room for over a week.

Frank: Bad. I was going to ask go if you wanted to see a movie. What about the day after tomorrow?

Debbie: Sorry, I (move) ..... furniture and (put) ..... up drapes.

4. Mr. Jones: What are you going to be doing next year at this time?

Mr. McIntyre: I (work) ..... for a big law firm in New Orleans.

Mr. Jones: I didn't know you were leaving Baton Rouge.

Mr. McIntyre: I got a great job offer which I just can't refuse. Besides, by the time I move, I (live) ..... in Baton Rouge for over twenty years. I think it's about time for a change.

### **Verb Tense Practice Test Exercise 29**

#### ***Cumulative Verb Tense Review***

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

2. A: What (you, do) ..... when the accident occurred?

B: I (try) ..... to change a light bulb that had burnt out.

3. I (have) ..... the same car for more than ten years. I'm thinking about buying a new one.

4. If it (snow) ..... this weekend, we (go) ..... skiing near Lake Tahoe.

5. A: What do you call people who work in libraries?

B: They (call) ..... librarians.

6. I came to England six months ago. I started my economics course three months ago. When I return

- to Australia, I (study) ..... for nine months and I (be) ..... England for exactly one year.
7. Sam (arrive) ..... in San Diego a week ago.
8. Samantha (live) ..... in Berlin for more than two years. In fact, she (live) ..... there when the Berlin wall came down.
9. If Vera (keep) ..... drinking, she (lose, eventually) ..... her job.
10. The Maya established a very advanced civilization in the jungles of the Yucatan; however, their culture (disappear, virtually) ..... by the time Europeans first (arrive) ..... in the New World.
11. Shhhhh! Be quiet! John (sleep) .....
12. It (rain) ..... all week. I hope it stops by Saturday because I want to go to the beach.
13. Listen Donna, I don't care if you (miss) ..... the bus this morning. You (be) ..... late to work too many times. You are fired!
14. I am sick of rain and bad weather! Hopefully, when we (wake) ..... up tomorrow morning, the sun (shine) .....
15. I have not traveled much yet; however, I (visit) ..... the Grand Canyon and San Francisco by the time I leave the United States.
16. I (see) ..... many pictures of the pyramids before I went to Egypt. Pictures of the monuments are very misleading. The pyramids are actually quite small.
17. 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.
18. 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.
19. When I (arrive) ..... home last night, I discovered that Jane (prepare) ..... a beautiful candle-lit dinner.
20. If you (need) ..... contact me sometime next week, I (stay) ..... at the Sheraton in San Francisco.

### **Verb Tense Final Test Exercise 30**

#### ***Cumulative Verb Tense Review***

1. When Carol (call) ..... last night, I (watch) ..... my favorite show on television.
2. I (work) ..... for this company for more than thirty years, and I intend to stay here until I retire!
3. Sharon (love) ..... to travel. She (go) ..... abroad almost every summer. Next year, she plans to go to Peru.
4. Thomas is an author. He (write) ..... mystery novels and travel memoirs. He (write) ..... since he was twenty-eight. Altogether, he (write) ..... seven novels, three collections of short stories.
5. We were late because we had some car problems. By the time we (get) ..... to the train station, Susan (wait) ..... for us for more than two hours.
6. Sam (try) ..... to change a light bulb when he (slip) ..... and (fell) .....
7. Everyday I (wake) ..... up at 6 o'clock, (eat) ..... breakfast at 7 o'clock and (leave) ..... for work at 8 o'clock. However, this morning I (get) ..... up at 6:30, (skip) ..... breakfast and (leave) ..... for work late because I (forget) ..... to set my alarm.
8. Right now, Jim (read) ..... the newspaper and Kathy (make) ..... dinner. Last night at this time, they (do) ..... the same thing. She (cook) ..... and he (read) ..... the newspaper. Tomorrow at this time, they (do, also) ..... the same thing. She (prepare) ..... dinner and he (read) ..... They are very predictable people!
9. By this time next summer, you (complete) ..... your studies and (find) ..... a job. I, on the other hand, (accomplish, not) ..... anything. I (study, still) ..... and you (work) ..... in some new job.
10. The students (be, usually) ..... taught by Mrs. Monty. However, this week they (be) ..... taught by Mr. Tanzer.
11. Jane talks on the phone.  
Bob has been talking on the phone for an hour.  
Mary is talking on the phone.  
Who is not necessarily on the phone now? .....

12. I'm going to make dinner for Frank.  
 I'm making dinner for Judy.  
 I'll make dinner for Mary.  
 I make dinner for Ted.  
 I will be making dinner for Tony.  
 Who are you offering to make dinner for? .....
13. Jane left when Tim arrived.  
 Bob left when Tim had arrived.  
 Tim arrived when Mary was leaving.  
 John had left when Tim arrived.  
 After Tim arrived, Frank left.  
 Who did not run into Tim? .....
14. Jane is talking in class.  
 Bob always talks in class.  
 Mary is always talking in class.  
 Whose action bothers you? .....
15. Jane never left Jamestown.  
 Bob has never left Jamestown.  
 Who is still alive? .....

### VERB TENSE OVERVIEW WITH EXAMPLES

Simple Present	Simple Past	Simple Future
I <u>study</u> English everyday.	Two years ago, I <u>studied</u> English in England.	I <u>am going to</u> study English next year. If you are having problems, I <u>will</u> help you study English.
Present Continuous	Past Continuous	Future Continuous
I <u>am studying</u> English now.	I <u>was studying</u> English when you called yesterday.	I <u>will be studying</u> English when you arrive tonight.
Present Perfect	Past Perfect	Future Perfect
I <u>have studied</u> English in several different countries.	I <u>had studied</u> a little English before I moved to the U.S.	I <u>will have studied</u> every tense by the time I finish this course.
Present Perfect Continuous	Past Perfect Continuous	Future Perfect Continuous
I <u>have been studying</u> English for five years.	I <u>had been studying</u> English for five years before I moved to the U.S.	I <u>will have been studying</u> English for over two hours by the time you arrive.

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