

# TENSES

A) Complete the following exercise with the correct form of the verbs in parentheses.

1. Hi, I  (be) Matt Rotell, a friend of Alice's.
2. Oh, yes. Alice  (mention) you the other day. Gee, you  (not look) like a detective.
3. Well, that's good, I  (guess).
4. I'm curious. Tell me, how  you  (decide) to become an undercover cop?
5. Well, when I  (be) a kid, I  (love) to read detective novels. By the time I  (be) ten, I  (read) every book in the *Hardy Boys* series. I  (know) that I  (want) to go into law enforcement.
6. But according to Alice, you  (attend) law school nowadays.
7. Right. I  (get) married last month. I  (not mind) being on the police force when I  (be) single, but ever since I  (meet) Nicole, my wife, I  (want) to do

something less dangerous.

8. I  (understand). By the way,  you

(have) any luck yet with those counterfeiters?

9. Well, I  (follow) them for more than a month now, but

so far I  (not be able to) catch them in the act.

Sometimes I  (worry) that by the time they're caught, I'll have

my law degree and I'll be defending them!

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## Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the verbs

1. Hardly had the minister finished his speech when gunshots ---- (storm) the stadium.

stormed

2. Everybody will be at the office at about 08:30 tomorrow as the meeting ---- (start) at nine o'clock.

starts

3. That candidate who we had been interviewed before we ---- (speak) to all the others is still my favorite.

4. While climbing onto the mountain top, I ---- (encounter) a strange animal which I'd never seen before.

5. The chairman was sure that his plan would work out fine as no other member -- (oppose) it up to that time.

6. I wasn't surprised to hear that Monica ---- (have) an accident as she is a very reckless driver.

7. Since the very first day when the Umbrella Company embarked upon such a dangerous and risky lab-research, very strange incidents ---- (take place) within the research complex.

8. Urbanization ---- (always / be) a problem which causes several environmental challenges ever since the rate of migration ---- (increase) after the industrial revolution.

9. When I ---- (come) home this evening, my parents had gone out for a walk.

10. By the time the troops ---- (arrive), the war will have ended.

11. By the year 2020, linguists ---- (study) the Indo-European language family for more than 200 years.

12. Gasoline ---- (become) a major problem for people for the last ten years, therefore, during this time many people have preferred to sell their cars and buy

smaller ones.

13. By the time he was 14, Wolfgang Mozart ---- (compose) an enviable number of musical pieces.

14. Nothing in my life ---- (be) so strong to stop me achieve my goals so far and i don't think anything will be.

15. Archaeologists ---- (explain) recently that an ancient underground city around Cappadocia has long wide corridors where there are many special areas for making cheese and wine.

16. I was amazed when he accepted a drink, since I ---- (always / assume) that he was a teetotaler.

17. I ---- (play) tennis tomorrow but I won't be able to do that because I have injured my right ankle.

18. We ---- (visit) the seashore many times before but last summer we enjoyed ourselves more than ever.

19. According to a survey, thousands of vending machines ---- (have to be converted) before the new coins have come into circulation.

**Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs. Use a comma ',' and a space between multiple answers**

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1. I ---- (never come) across such a big snake in my life. What about you?

have never come

2. By Saturday next week, I ---- (work) on this painting for exactly one month.

3. My wife and I ---- (have) a few problems recently and I have to admit that our relationship ---- (get) a bit boring since our daughter ---- (leave) for university.

have had, has gotten, left

4. Even though I ---- (like) singing, I can say that I ---- (have) a terrible voice.

5. By the year 2020, the population of London ---- (grow) substantially.

6. My grandparents ---- (come) to see us next weekend. They ---- (not visit) us for two years.

7. We ---- (look for) her ring for two hours when we found it in the bathroom.

8. They were very tired in the evening because they ---- (help) on the farm all day.

9. I ---- (lead) a very busy life these days. I ---- (prepare) for my final exams and at the same time I ---- (try) to move to my new apartment. You can't imagine how tired I am.

10. Do you know what time the 10:45 plane ---- (arrive) in Chicago?

**Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the given verbs. Use a comma ',' and a space to separate multiple answers.**

Sample Answer Format:

have been running, came

1. Jessica ---- (never fall) in love until she ---- (meet) Ben two years ago.

had never fallen, met

2. Bruce ---- (not stop) studying until he ---- (cover) all of the exam topics.

3. When the old woman ---- (hear) that her grandson ---- (arrest) for robbery, she -  
--- (shock).

4. When Megan ---- (have) problems at school, her parents ---- (usually help) her  
to cope with them.

5. We ---- (wait) for the bus for nearly half an hour, but it ---- (not arrive) yet so I  
don't think we ---- (be able to) attend the meeting on time.

6. When Sarah ---- (graduate) from university next year, she ---- (study) English for  
nearly four years.

7. While the children ---- (play) by the lake, one of them ---- (drop) his ball and ----  
(try) to get it out himself.

8. Tomorrow at around 7.30 pm, I ---- (drive) through America.

9. Builders ---- (finish) the Millennium Dome by the end of the year 2000.

10. When I ---- (have) another look I ---- (realize) the shirt in the laundry ----  
(shrink).