ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Present Tenses MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 4

English Grammar Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/present-tenses-test-4/

1	**B**	2	**C**	3	**D**	4	**A**	5	**E**	6	**B**	7	**D**	8	**C**	9	**B**	10	**C**
11	**E**	12	**B**	13	**A**	14	**C**	15	**A**	16	**B**	17	**D**	18	**D**	19	**C**	20	**C**

Explanations

1. - Where is Alex?

- He _____ tennis.
✔ **B) is playing**
The question asks where he is now, so we need an action happening at this moment: the present continuous, **is playing**. Not **has been playing**, because that focuses on how long, and nothing in the sentence asks that.

2. I _____ never _____ such beautiful flowers before.
✔ **C) have / seen**
Never … before talks about life experience up to now, so we use the present perfect: **I have never seen**. With **I** we use **have**, not **has**.

3. I've got to get him to the station. His train _____ in half an hour.
✔ **D) is leaving**
The present continuous can talk about a fixed plan in the near future: **His train is leaving in half an hour. Train** is singular, so the verb is **is**, not **are**.

4. - What _____ you _____?

- I _____ now.
✔ **A) are / doing / am washing up**
Now shows an action happening at this moment, so both the question and the answer use the present continuous: **What are you doing?** – **I am washing up.**

5. We can go out now. It _____.
✔ **E) isn't raining**
We can go out because, at this moment, there is no rain: the present continuous, **It isn't raining**. Not **don't rain**, because **it** needs **doesn't**, and the sentence is about now.

6. You'll see what I _____ about you recently.
✔ **B) have written**
Recently goes with the present perfect, for past actions connected to now: **what I have written**. Not **had written**, because the past perfect needs another past moment.

7. She _____ since last week.
✔ **D) has been ill**
Since last week shows a state that started in the past and still continues, so we use the present perfect: **has been ill**. Not **is ill**, because **since** needs the present perfect.

8. Listen! Somebody _____ at the door.
✔ **C) is knocking**
Listen! shows that the action is happening right now, so we use the present continuous: **is knocking**.

9. This year we _____ a good harvest of cotton.
✔ **B) have grown**
This year is a time period that is not finished, so we use the present perfect. With **we** the helping verb is **have**: **we have grown**. Not **has grown**, because **has** goes with **he/she/it**.

10. Look at the little boys! They _____ with stones.
✔ **C) are playing**
Look! shows an action happening now, so we use the present continuous. **They** goes with **are**: **They are playing**.

11. It _____ him 20 minutes to get to work usually.
✔ **E) takes**
Usually shows a habit, so we use the present simple. **It** needs **-s**: **It takes him 20 minutes.**

12. Usually my working day _____ at 8.30 sharp.
✔ **B) starts**
Usually shows a regular habit, so we use the present simple. **My working day** is singular (like **it**), so we add **-s**: **starts**.

13. Stop a minute and think what you _____.
✔ **A) are saying**
The person is speaking at this moment, so we use the present continuous: **what you are saying**. **You** goes with **are**, not **is**.

14. The population of the world _____ very fast.
✔ **C) is rising**
We use the present continuous for a situation that is changing around now: **The population is rising very fast.** Not **rises**, because the sentence describes a change in progress, not a general fact.

15. Tourists _____ a lot of different information when they travel.
✔ **A) get**
This is a general truth, so we use the present simple. **Tourists** is plural, so the verb has no **-s**: **Tourists get**.

16. The English seaside _____ very popular lately.
✔ **B) has become**
Lately means 'in the recent period up to now' and goes with the present perfect: **has become**. Not **had become**, because the past perfect needs an earlier past moment.

17. _____ he already _____ the rules in the race?
✔ **D) has / broken**
Already in a question usually goes with the present perfect: **Has he already broken the rules?** The form is **has** + past participle (**broken**).

18. Peter _____ his lessons. When he finishes them he'll watch TV.
✓ **D) is doing**
When he finishes them shows Peter is in the middle of his lessons now, so we use the present continuous: **is doing**. Not **has done**, because he has not finished yet.

19. I _____ never _____ the book.
✓ **C) have / read**
Never already makes the sentence negative, so we use **have … read**, not **haven't**: **I have never read the book.** This is the present perfect for life experience.

20. Look! The girls _____ in the park.
✓ **C) are skating**
Look! shows the action is happening now, so we use the present continuous. **The girls** is plural: **are skating**.

Practise more on englishtestsonline.com
Take this test online, download its questions PDF, and find thousands of free English tests:
englishtestsonline.com · scan the code for this test
englishtestsonline.com