ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Present Tenses MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 5

English Grammar Tests · 24 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/present-tenses-test-5/

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Explanations

1. She is sorry, she _____ so rude.
✓ **D) has been**
Use the present perfect (**has been**) for a past action that still matters now: she is sorry now about how she behaved. Not **were**, because **she** needs **was**, and the past simple does not link the rudeness to her feeling sorry now.

2. Why _____ nothing _____?
✓ **C) has / been done yet**
This is the present perfect passive, **has been done**, with **yet** at the end: **Why has nothing been done yet? Nothing** is singular, so it takes **has**, not **have**. **Hasn't** is wrong because **nothing** is already negative.

3. Shh! The teacher _____ on the blackboard.
✓ **E) is writing**
Shh! shows the action is happening right now, so use the present continuous: **is writing**.

4. I _____ here since 1972.
✓ **E) have lived**
Since 1972 means from a point in the past until now, so use the present perfect: **have lived**. Not **am living**, because the present continuous is not used with **since** for a period up to now.

5. _____ you _____ to England?
✓ **C) have / been**
To ask about life experience up to now, use the present perfect: **Have you been to England? Been to** means 'visited and come back'.

6. Hello! Who _____?
✓ **D) is speaking**
On the phone, we ask **Who is speaking?** in the present continuous, because the person is speaking right now.

7. Max _____ to be good at interpreting, _____ he?
✓ **A) doesn't seem / does**
A negative sentence takes a positive question tag: **Max doesn't seem to be good at interpreting, does he?** The tense of the tag must match the verb (**doesn't … does**), so **didn't** or **did** would be wrong here.

8. _____ you ever _____ Herr Boschen sing his great German comic songs?
✓ **E) have / heard**
Ever in a question about life experience goes with the present perfect: **Have you ever heard …?** Not **did / heard**, because after **did** we need the base form (**hear**).

9. Who _____ writing the text yet?
✓ **E) hasn't finished**
Yet in a question points to the present perfect, and **who** as the subject takes a singular verb: **Who hasn't finished …?** Not **haven't finished**, because **who** is treated as singular.

10. - What _____ you _____?

- I _____ a letter.
✓ **A) are / doing / am writing**
The question asks about an action happening now, so both lines use the present continuous: **What are you doing?** – **I am writing a letter.**

11. We _____ twenty words already.
✓ **B) have learned**
Already shows a result up to now, so use the present perfect: **We have learned twenty words already.** Not **has learned**, because **we** needs **have**.

12. "I can't marry Mr. Fire. I _____ already _____ my word to another man," said the chief's daughter.
✓ **E) have / given**
Already and the present situation (**I can't marry**) show the present perfect: **I have already given my word.** Not **had given**, because the past perfect needs another past moment, and she is speaking about now.

13. Be quick! A dog _____ after your child.
✓ **E) is running**
Be quick! shows it is happening right now, so use the present continuous: **A dog is running after your child.**

14. I _____ never _____ to the USA.
✓ **C) have / been**
Never is used with the present perfect to talk about experience: **I have never been to the USA. I** takes **have**, not **has**.

15. Oh, not really, I _____ a minute since I came in.
✓ **A) haven't had**
Since I came in means from that moment until now, so use the present perfect: **I haven't had a minute** (= I have had no free time). Not **haven't**, because we need the verb **had** after it.

16. Take away the crib; the teacher _____ at you.
✓ **B) is looking**
The teacher is looking at you right now, so use the present continuous: **is looking**. A **crib** here is a piece of paper used to cheat in a test.

17. I _____ them for 10 months.
✓ **C) have known**
For 10 months means from the past until now, so use the present perfect: **have known**. Not **know**, because the present simple does not show a period up to now.

18. Why _____ you _____ the coat? It's not cold.
✓ **C) have / put on**
The speaker can see the result now (the coat is on), so use the present perfect: **Why have you put on the coat?** Not **do / put on**, because that asks about a habit, not this moment.

19. Don't enter the classroom. The students _____ an exam.
✓ **D) are writing**
Don't enter shows the exam is happening right now, so use the present continuous: **are writing**.

20. Look! They _____ in our direction.
✓ **E) are coming**
Look! shows the action is happening now, so use the present continuous: **They are coming**. Not **was coming**, because that is past and **they** needs **were**.

21. I _____ Paul since Christmas.
✓ **B) haven't seen**
Since Christmas means from then until now, so use the present perfect: **I haven't seen Paul**. Not **hadn't seen**, because the past perfect needs another past moment.

22. "Fortune" _____ the magazine of business success for over 50 years.
✓ **D) has been**
For over 50 years describes a state that started in the past and continues now, so use the present perfect: **has been**. Not **is**, because the present simple does not go with **for** + a period up to now.

23. She _____ false impressions on those who _____ her.
✓ **B) produces / don't know**
This is a general fact, so both verbs are in the present simple: **She produces … those who don't know her. Those** is plural, so it takes **don't know**, not **doesn't know**.

24. Food prices _____ rapidly in the past few months.
✓ **C) have risen**
In the past few months means a period up to now, so use the present perfect. **Prices** is plural, so it takes **have risen**, not **has risen**.

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