

Compare English Tenses

Learner worksheet - 20 questions

Name: _____ Date: _____

Circle one option or write your answer on the line. In sentence changes, keep the same subject and details.

Standard contractions are accepted where appropriate. There is no timer.

1. Describe your usual daily routine, rather than what you are doing now.

- A.** I walk to work every day.
- B.** I am walking to work right now.

2. Describe a regular class timetable.

- A.** We are studying for our test this week.
- B.** We study on Tuesdays.

3. Describe your morning habit.

- A.** I am reading the news at the moment.
- B.** I read the news every morning.

4. Describe the activity happening now, rather than a state.

- A.** She is helping a customer now.
- B.** She needs help.

5. Focus on cooking being in progress at six.

- A.** I cooked dinner yesterday.
- B.** I was cooking dinner at six yesterday.

6. Say that the task was completed yesterday.

- A.** We finished the task yesterday.
- B.** We were working on the task at ten yesterday.

7. Describe the background activity interrupted by the lights going out.

- A.** I was cleaning the kitchen when the lights went out.
- B.** I cleaned the kitchen last night.

8. Give a finished past time for the visit.

- A.** I have visited York before.
- B.** I visited York last year.

9. Focus on the result now rather than the finished past date.

- A.** He has bought a ticket, so he can travel now.
- B.** He bought a ticket yesterday.

- 10.** Describe employment that continues until now.
 - A.** She has worked there since 2020 and still works there.
 - B.** She worked there from 2018 to 2020.
- 11.** Choose the sentence that uses will to make an offer.
 - A.** I'm going to apply for a new job next week.
 - B.** I'll help you carry that bag.
- 12.** Choose the going-to prediction based on visible evidence.
 - A.** I think you'll enjoy the course.
 - B.** Look at those dark clouds. It's going to rain.
- 13.** Choose the sentence that explicitly uses will as a promise.
 - A.** I'll send you the information, I promise.
 - B.** He's going to buy a travel card tomorrow.
- 14.** Focus on the completed amount.
 - A.** I have been reading for an hour.
 - B.** I have read three pages.
- 15.** Focus on time spent working on the repair, without saying it is finished.
 - A.** He has repaired the bicycle.
 - B.** He has been repairing the bicycle for two hours.
- 16.** Choose the sentence with the state verb know in its usual form.
 - A.** She has been studying with her tutor for months.
 - B.** She has known her tutor for years.
- 17.** Choose the sentence that explicitly uses the past perfect for an earlier completed action.
 - A.** She had left before I arrived.
 - B.** She left at six yesterday.
- 18.** Report the event using the finished time yesterday.
 - A.** He lost his keys yesterday.
 - B.** He had lost his keys before he reached home.
- 19.** Choose the sentence that explicitly places receipt before another past event using the past perfect.
 - A.** We received the timetable yesterday.
 - B.** We had received the timetable before the course began.
- 20.** Report the completed homework with the finished time yesterday.
 - A.** Amina did her homework yesterday.
 - B.** Amina had done her homework before the lesson began.

Compare English Tenses

Answer key - tutor copy

Accept grammatically correct alternatives that preserve the requested meaning and details, including standard contractions. The online practice may ask for a particular sentence pattern.

1. (A) I walk to work every day.
2. (B) We study on Tuesdays.
3. (B) I read the news every morning.
4. (A) She is helping a customer now.
5. (B) I was cooking dinner at six yesterday.
6. (A) We finished the task yesterday.
7. (A) I was cleaning the kitchen when the lights went out.
8. (B) I visited York last year.
9. (A) He has bought a ticket, so he can travel now.
10. (A) She has worked there since 2020 and still works there.
11. (B) I'll help you carry that bag.
12. (B) Look at those dark clouds. It's going to rain.
13. (A) I'll send you the information, I promise.
14. (B) I have read three pages.
15. (B) He has been repairing the bicycle for two hours.
16. (B) She has known her tutor for years.
17. (A) She had left before I arrived.
18. (A) He lost his keys yesterday.
19. (B) We had received the timetable before the course began.
20. (A) Amina did her homework yesterday.

More free learning: esolish.com/english-tenses/