

A. Les temps

1. Le présent et le passé

a. **Le présent simple** est utilisé pour les habitudes, souvent avec les adverbes de fréquence (often, sometimes, rarely). Il est aussi utilisé pour les faits permanents et les généralités.

- *I often **go** to watch my favourite team play football.*
- *I **have** a check-up once a month.*
- ***We travel** by car to the mountains twice a year.*
- *When I **finish** I will look for a job abroad.*

b. **Le présent progressif** (*be + -ing*) on utilise pour décrire une action temporaire qui est en train de se dérouler ou qui se déroule pendant la période actuelle.

- *I **am working** on my essay.*
- ***We are making** a cake for her birthday.*

c. **Le présent perfect simple** (*has/have + participe passé*) :

<i>i.</i>	<p>pour décrire une action qui a commencé dans le passé et qui continue dans le présent :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Steven has lost his umbrella.</i> (Il ne l'a pas encore trouvé) • <i>They have confiscated the toy from them.</i> (Le jouet est toujours confisqué)
<i>ii.</i>	<p>pour décrire une action qui s'est déroulée dans le passé et qui est terminée, mais qui a un résultat et une conséquence dans le présent :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I have been to the shops and I have bought a newspaper.</i> • <i>I have written and I have handed in my homework assignment.</i>
<i>iii.</i>	<p>pour décrire des expériences :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I have only been to Spain three times.</i> • <i>We have never travelled by plane.</i>
<i>iv.</i>	<p>avec since pour décrire une action qui commence à un moment précis dans le passé et qui dure jusqu'à présent :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Since the year 2000 I have taken part in over fifty debates.</i> • <i>Since this morning I have written at least ten pages.</i>

v.	avec for pour décrire la durée jusqu'au présent d'une action commencée dans le passé : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I have cycled for four hours without taking a break.</i> • <i>They haven't been in contact for three weeks.</i>
vi.	avec les adverbes ' just ' et ' still ' : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>He has just finished washing the dishes.</i> • <i>I have just asked Tony whether he'd like to come to the party.</i> • <i>They still haven't made an effort to clean up the mess they created.</i>
vii.	avec l'adverbe ' already ' : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We have already watched that film. Choose another one.</i> • <i>I have already made my decision.</i>
viii.	avec l'adverbe ' yet ' dans des questions ou les négations. On l'utilise pour décrire une action qui devrait être terminée : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I haven't finished writing my book yet.</i> • <i>Have you been to Russia yet?</i>
ix.	avec l'adverbe ' ever ', dans des questions. On l'utilise pour décrire une action possible jusqu'à maintenant. On l'utilise aussi avec l'adverbe ' never ' : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Have you ever been to Latin America?</i> • <i>Has he ever eaten sushi?</i> • <i>I have never travelled in Asia.</i>
x.	pour décrire les réussites de quelqu'un ou de l'humanité : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Man has walked on the Moon.</i> • <i>Doctors have cured many deadly diseases.</i> • <i>Our daughter has learned how to read music.</i>

d. Le présent perfect progressif est utilisé :

- Pour évoquer la durée de l'action dont les conséquences sont mentionnées.
- Pour montrer qu'une activité commencée dans le passé se déroule au moment où on parle.
- Pour montrer qu'on s'intéresse à l'activité plus qu'au résultat.

- Pour montrer une certaine irritation.

- i. *I **have been working** for five hours.*
- ii. *He **has been working** for this company for twenty years.*

e. Le prétérit simple est utilisé :

i.	pour décrire une action achevée : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Yesterday I saw a movie.</i> • <i>Last year I spent three months living in China.</i>
ii.	pour décrire une série d'actions : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I finished work, walked to the beach, and found a nice place to swim.</i> • <i>He arrived from the airport at 8:00, checked into the hotel at 9:00, and met the others at 10:00.</i>
iii.	pour décrire une durée dans : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I lived in Spain for three years.</i> • <i>Thomas studied Chinese for five years.</i>
iv.	pour décrire des habitudes. Il est analogue à ' used to '. Pour clarifier qu'on parle des habitudes on utilise souvent des expressions telles que always, often, usually, never, when I was a child etc. : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>When I was a child I studied Italian. (I used to study Italian)</i> • <i>Did you play a musical instrument when you were at school?</i>
v.	pour décrire des faits et des généralisations. Il est analogue à ' used to ' : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>He was very shy as a teenager, but now he is very extroverted. (He used to be shy)</i> • <i>In the past we paid much more to make a phone call from their mobile phone. (we used to pay)</i>
vi.	avec l'adverbe ' ago ' : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Two years ago I went to visit my sister in New Zealand.</i> • <i>How long ago did you quit smoking?</i>

f. Le prétérit progressif (*was/were + -ing*)

i.	<p>pour indiquer qu'une action dans le passé a été interrompue :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I was listening to the radio when she the phone rang.</i> • <i>What were you doing when the earthquake started?</i> • <i>They were not listening to me when I told them to turn the lights off.</i> • <i>While I was studying, he called.</i> • <i>I was having my dinner when she knocked on the door.</i>
ii.	<p>pour décrire une action qui est en train de se dérouler à un moment précis dans le passé :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Last night at 7 PM, I was eating dinner with my parents.</i> • <i>At midnight, we were still driving in the blizzard.</i> • <i>Yesterday at this time, I was sitting at home reading a book.</i>
iii.	<p>pour décrire l'ambiance à un moment donné dans le passé :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>When I walked into the office, several people were busily typing, some were talking on the phones, the boss was yelling directions, and customers were waiting to be helped. One customer was yelling at a secretary and waving his hands. Others were complaining to each other about the bad service.</i>
iv.	<p>pour décrire quelque chose de répétitive ou d'agaçant dans le passé :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>He was always coming to class late.</i> • <i>She was constantly talking. She annoyed practically everyone.</i> • <i>I didn't like him because he was always complaining.</i>

g. Le pluperfect simple est utilisé pour décrire une action antérieure dans le temps à un moment dans le passé (prétérit) :

- i. *I did not have any money because I **had lost** my wallet.*
- ii. *He knew Rome so well because he **had visited** the city several times.*
- iii. ***Had** Susan ever **studied** Thai before she moved to Thailand?*
- iv. *We **had had** that car for ten years before it broke down.*
- v. *By the time Sarah finished her studies, she **had been** in Kiev for over eight years.*

h. Le pluperfect progressif (*have/had been + -ing*) est utilisé pour exprimer une action passée qui n'était pas terminée (était 'en progrès') au moment du passé que l'on considère, et dont on indique (ou demande) la durée :

- *We had been living in Switzerland for ten years when we decided to leave.*



Exercices

Indiquez pour chaque proposition si elle est vraie (V) ou fausse (F).

- A.** "How was the movie?" "It was absolutely great! I had a wonderful time!"

B. "What does George look like?" "He's tall with blue eyes and brown hair. Very handsome."

C. "How has your week been?" "It's been hard".

D. "How long has Mark been here?" "Since the beginning of August."
- A.** I never know exactly what to do.

B. My neighbor always has his tea in the morning.

C. Some students are always coming late for their classes! This must stop!

D. France is up against a lot of problems these days.
- A.** The world is trying to deal with the subprime mortgage financial crisis this year.

B. Nobody really knows how much it will cost when it will be over.

C. People are now being refused home loans even if they qualify.

D. The US government has just come up with an economic stimulus plan to ease the financial crisis.
- A.** "How often do you play football?" "Twice a week."

B. We watch the news all days in the morning.

C. Each of them know you very well.

D. None of us is having time to go to the park today.
- A.** "What are you doing?" "I'm watching TV."

B. Professor Smith is a famous scientist who's been working in this field for 20 years.

- C. He has written 5 books and lectured in many countries.
D. Lately, he has made five trips to New York.
6. A. "Have you done your homework yet?" "No, not yet."
B. France has already embarked on its reform program.
C. "I'm very hungry, I haven't eaten yet." "Shall we go to a restaurant?"
D. This restaurant is new; it's been opened only last month.
7. A. Tom has been doing housework for three years now.
B. Chris has been a member of the school theatre society for the last three years.
C. When he had 10 years old he decided he would play NBA one day.
D. He has joined his club when he was in the middle school.
8. A. He's always coming late for our meetings! We can't work with him.
B. This semester we are studying the impact of the greenhouse effect on the environment.
C. – Where's Betty? – She's still sleeping.
D. I'm so happy. Your sister is coming to visit us next week.
9. A. China's GDP has been growing up since 15 years now.
B. China's GDP has gone up substantially in the last 15 years.
C. The population of India has reached 1 billion in 2000.
D. The population of Russia has been declining since the collapse of communism.
10. A. While we were listening to the concert a woman screamed.
B. When she screamed the musicians stopped playing.
C. As soon as all the musicians had stopped playing the woman left.
D. Then, the concert resumed.
11. A. Hollywood film producers have been regularly budgeted millions of dollars for a film.
B. The healthful properties of fiber are known for years.
C. The vessel that sank may have been carrying the gold and jewels from the dowry of Catherine of Aragon.
D. Galileo builds his first telescope in 1609.
12. A. Lack of exercise and high-fat diets have considered to be factors in heart attacks.
B. Yesterday I have run fast.
C. The soldier fought very bravely.
D. Never has the work been so easy.

13. **A.** Mary has been playing the violin since 20 years.
B. Mary has been playing the piano since she started 20 years ago.
C. Mary is playing the piano for 20 years.
D. It's twenty years since Mary plays the piano.
14. **A.** While we were writing our exam a mobile phone rang.
B. When a mobile phone rang we all stopped writing.
C. As soon as everybody had stopped writing the proctor confiscated the phone.
D. Then we were able to continue our exam.
15. **A.** Last year I have worked for Sony.
B. At the moment I'm working for Sony.
C. Do you work for IBM? Actually, at the moment I work for Sony.
D. I don't work for Sony, actually I'm work for IBM.
16. **A.** I haven't seen him for a long time.
B. I haven't seen him since a long time.
C. It's a long time since I've seen him.
D. It's been a long time since I haven't seen him last.
17. **A.** I'm living here since February.
B. I'm having some time off next week.
C. I'm having a party this weekend.
D. I'm seeing my doctor tomorrow at 10 o'clock.
18. **A.** Every child in France is liking cheese.
B. There's a shop at every end of the street.
C. Last year we have developed a new marketing strategy.
D. Last year we developed a new marketing strategy.
19. **A.** When he is older, he will probably go and work for in America.
B. Although she has travelled around the EU, she still hasn't been to Switzerland.
C. Although she had travelled around Europe, she still hadn't been to Switzerland.
D. It is high time he moves out of his parents' home. He is going to be 35 next year.
20. **A.** I think the phone's ringing. Are you expecting a phone call?
B. I think I can hear the phone ringing. Do you expect a phone call?
C. I think I can hear the phone ringing. You expect a phone call?
D. Since the beginning of this summer holiday, she is working in this restaurant.

21. **A.** The store manager is back in his office again. He is returned from the bank.
B. It's high time you will go to bed.
C. It's high time you go to bed.
D. It's high time went time.
22. **A.** Three hundred students passed this exam; only fifty succeeded it.
B. Three hundred students have passed this exam, but only fifty took it.
C. Three hundred students took this exam, but only fifty passed it.
D. The workers have been unemployed ever since the factory closed last year.
23. **A.** Even before she took the exam, Jill was sure she would fail.
B. Even before she passed the exam, Jill was sure she will fail.
C. Nothing really important has happened since the day he has left.
D. Nothing really important has happened since the day he left.
24. **A.** I called him at 9 o'clock yesterday morning.
B. I have called him at 9 o'clock yesterday morning.
C. I've just called him.
D. I have lived in New York since I have been born.
25. **A.** Never have I seen such an accomplished young musician.
B. Never saw I such an accomplished young musician.
C. We did sign the contract last year and it is still valid.
D. We have signed the contract last year and it's still valid.
26. **A.** You didn't listen to a word I say.
B. You haven't listened to a word I have said.
C. You weren't listening to a word I was saying.
D. You haven't been listened to a word I have said.
27. **A.** Costs have gone up so we can afford to reduce our prices.
B. Costs failed so we can afford to reduce our prices.
C. Costs have fallen so we can afford to reduce our prices.
D. Costs have decreased so we can afford to reduce our prices.
28. **A.** The FTSE has hit a record high.
B. The Prime Minister has announced changes in the tax system.
C. The Prime Minister said of changes in the tax system.
D. Julia is very good at languages, she is speaking five very well.