

Mastering English Tenses: Advanced Practice Worksheet

Advanced Mixed Tenses Practice

Part 1: The Narrative Flow

Complete the following story by putting the verbs in brackets into the correct tense (Present Simple, Present Continuous, Past Simple, Past Continuous, Present Perfect, or Past Perfect).

Last summer, Lukas, a student from Munich, **(1)** _____ (decide) to spend his holidays in Brighton. He **(2)** _____ (study) English for six years before he finally made the trip. While he **(3)** _____ (walk) along the pier on his first day, he suddenly **(4)** _____ (realize) that he **(5)** _____ (lose) his wallet.

"I **(6)** _____ (never/be) so embarrassed in my life," he thought. He **(7)** _____ (look) for it everywhere when a girl approached him. "Excuse me, **(8)** _____ (you/drop) this?" she asked. Lukas was relieved. Since that day, they **(9)** _____ (become) great friends. Currently, they **(10)** _____ (plan) a hiking trip in the Alps for next month.

Part 2: Future Intentions and Predictions

Choose the most appropriate future form (will-future, going to-future, or Present Continuous).

1. Look at those dark clouds! It _____ (rain) any minute.
 2. I'm tired. I think I _____ (go) to bed early tonight.
 3. We _____ (meet) the principal tomorrow at 10:00 AM; the appointment is already in my calendar.
 4. I _____ (study) medicine after I finish my Abitur. That has always been my dream.
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Part 3: The German-English Interference Challenge

German speakers often make specific mistakes when translating directly. Correct the tense errors in the following sentences.

1. I am living in Munich since ten years.

Correction: _____

2. When I was ten, I have gone to London with my parents.

Correction: _____

3. Look! The sun shines. Let's go outside.

Correction: _____

4. I will call you as soon as I will arrive.

Correction: _____

Part 4: Multiple Choice Challenge

1. Which sentence correctly describes a finished action in the past with a specific time reference?

A. I have seen that movie yesterday.

B. I saw that movie yesterday.

C. I was seeing that movie yesterday.

D. I had seen that movie yesterday.

2. By the time the teacher arrived, the students _____ the classroom.

A. have left

B. left

C. were leaving

D. had left

3. 'I'm meeting Sarah at 5 PM.' Why is the Present Continuous used here?

A. It is a spontaneous decision.

B. It is a general truth.

C. It is a fixed arrangement in the future.

D. It is a prediction based on evidence.

4. Choose the correct sentence:

A. I haven't eaten anything since breakfast.

B. I wouldn't eat anything since breakfast.

C. I didn't eat anything since breakfast.

D. I don't eat anything since breakfast.

Answer Key

Part 1: The Narrative Flow

1. decided (Past Simple)
2. had been studying / had studied (Past Perfect - action before another past action)
3. was walking (Past Continuous - background action)
4. realized (Past Simple - main event)
5. had lost (Past Perfect - happened before he realized it)
6. have never been (Present Perfect - life experience)
7. was looking (Past Continuous)
8. did you drop (Past Simple - specific past moment)
9. have become (Present Perfect - state continuing to the present)
10. are planning (Present Continuous - current activity)

Part 2: Future Intentions and Predictions

1. is going to rain (Prediction based on evidence)
2. will go (Spontaneous decision)
3. are meeting (Fixed arrangement)
4. am going to study (Long-term plan/intention)

Part 3: The German-English Interference Challenge

1. I **have been living** in Munich **for** ten years. (Use Present Perfect Continuous for duration + 'for' for lengths of time).
2. When I was ten, I **went** to London with my parents. (Specific past time requires Past Simple).
3. Look! The sun **is shining**. (Action happening right now requires Present Continuous).
4. I will call you as soon as I **arrive**. (In time clauses with 'as soon as/when/if', we use the Present Simple to refer to the future).

Part 4: Multiple Choice Answers

1. B — The Past Simple is used for completed actions at a specific time in the past (yesterday).

2. D — The Past Perfect (had left) is used to show an action that happened before another action in the past (the teacher's arrival).
3. C — The Present Continuous is used for pre-planned social arrangements and appointments.
4. A — We use the Present Perfect with 'since' to describe an action that started in the past and continues to the present.