

Grammar Revision (Tenses)

See Grammar Review page 147



A Read the text below and complete each blank with one word. All missing words are auxiliary verbs (is, was, have, has, had, do, does, did etc.).

My life (1) _____ improved a lot since last year. You see, before that I (2) _____ been working in the same job for five years and I (3) _____ beginning to feel rather bored. I (4) _____ getting ready to apply for another job when one day my boss called me into her office. "Our company (5) _____ planning to expand overseas," she said. "We (6) _____ thinking of starting with Spain, therefore we will (7) _____ needing some of our best employees to support our new branch there. (8) _____ you think you would be interested in a transfer?" Naturally I accepted, although at the time I (9) _____ not know that they (10) _____ also going to promote me to assistant manager.

By the end of this month, I will have (11) _____ living in Madrid for a year. You can't imagine how exciting my life (12) _____ become.

B Put the verbs in brackets into the Past Simple, Past Progressive, Present Perfect Simple or Present Perfect Progressive and complete the boxes with the time words below. Use each time word only once.

for while yet still when ago already since

1 _____ Mary _____ (have) a bath yesterday evening, I was in the kitchen. I _____ (cook) her favourite dish because I _____ (want) to surprise her. _____ she _____ (come) into the kitchen, she couldn't believe her eyes!

2 **Jim:** Mum, I _____ (look) for my black belt _____ the past hour and I _____ (not find) it. _____ you _____ (see) it anywhere?

Mother: No, but I think you _____ (lend) it to your brother about a week _____.

Jim: Oh, you're right. He _____ (not give) it back to me. I bet he _____ (wear) it all week. Where is he now, Mum?

Mother: I'm afraid Mark _____ (leave). He _____ (get) up about an hour before you _____ (do).

3 I _____ (work) on this project _____ this morning but I _____ (not finish) it _____. What am I going to tell my boss?

Points to remember

- ④ My sister loves cats. ✓
She loves cats. ✓
~~My sister she loves cats.~~
(Only one subject in each sentence.)
- ④ There is a book on the table.
It is Susan's.
(Use *there* when mentioning sth for the first time.
Use *it* for sth already mentioned.)
- ④ They don't have a car. ✓ (have = own)
They haven't got a car. ✓ (have got = own)
~~They don't have got a car.~~
~~They haven't a car.~~
- ④ He has a bath every morning. ✓ (have = take)
He doesn't have a bath every morning. ✓
~~He has got a bath every morning.~~
- ④ James didn't use to smoke so much. ✓
~~James didn't used to smoke so much.~~
(did/didn't + bare infinitive)
- ④ I do speak French. ✓ (emphasis)
He does eat snails. ✓
They did buy a house. ✓
~~We did saw the thief.~~
(do/does/did + bare infinitive)
- ④ She has gone to Italy. (She is still there.)
She has been to Italy. (She has returned.)
- ④ I bought this bike two years ago. ✓
(Past Simple + ago)
~~I have bought this bike two years ago.~~
~~I bought this bike two years before.~~
I have had this bike for two years. ✓
(Present Perfect + for)
~~I have this bike for two years.~~
I have had this bike since 1998. ✓
(Present Perfect + since + time)
I have had this bike since I was sixteen. ✓
(Present Perfect + since + Past Simple)
~~I have had this bike since two years ago.~~
(Only one time word in each sentence.)
- ④ I haven't studied for a week. (refers to the past: The last time I studied was a week ago.)
I have to study for a week. (refers to the future: I must study for a week before I do sth else.)
- ④ I haven't eaten spaghetti for six months. ✓
~~I have to eat spaghetti for six months.~~

Key Transformations

- ④ I have never been to Malta before.
It is the first time I have ever been to Malta.
- ④ I had never been to Malta before.
It was the first time I had ever been to Malta.
- ④ When did he start working?
How long has he been working?
How long is it since he started working?
- ④ The last time I saw her was a year ago.
I last saw her a year ago.
I haven't seen her for a year.
It has been a year since I last saw her.
It is a year since I last saw her.