

Basics. Past Simple and Past Continuous/Progressive Tenses.

[Easy](#)[A1 | Elementary | Beginners](#)[A2 | Elementary | Pre-intermediate](#)[Verb](#)[Past tense](#)[Progressive tense](#)[Simple tense](#)[Grammatical number](#)[Negation](#)[Questions](#)[English Grammar Basics](#)

1. Choose the correct verb form to complete the sentence.

The children _____ outside when it suddenly started to rain.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

- A) play
- B) played
- C) were playing
- D) are playing

2. The boys were playing video games, and they finished their favorite game. What _____ the boys doing?

Choose the correct option for each gap.

- A) did
- B) was
- C) were
- D) are

3. Choose the correct verb forms to complete the sentence.

When he _____ to the party last night, everyone _____ dancing.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) arrived
- B) arrive
- C) arrives

Blank 2

- A) was
- B) were
- C) are
- D) is

4. Form a question using the same verb in the blank.

"The children were building a snowman in the yard."

Select one.

- A) Were the children building a snowman in the yard?
- B) Did the children build a snowman in the yard?
- C) Are the children building a snowman in the yard?
- D) Do the children build a snowman in the yard?

5. Fill in the blank with the correct past simple form of the verb "to go."

When we were children, we _____ to the playground every day after school.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

- A) go
- B) goes
- C) went
- D) were going

6. Choose the correct verb forms to complete the sentence.

The cat _____ on the windowsill when it suddenly _____ down.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) was sitting
- B) sat
- C) were sitting
- D) is sitting

Blank 2

- A) jumped
- B) jump
- C) jumps

7. Select the correct verb form to complete the sentence.

When the teacher entered the classroom, the students _____ quietly.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

- A) sits
- B) were sitting
- C) was sitting
- D) sit

8. Fill in the blanks with the correct verb forms of "to sing."

Every day, the birds _____ in the trees, but yesterday they _____ on the ground.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) sings
- B) sing
- C) are singing

Blank 2

- A) sang
- B) were singing
- C) sung

9. Turn this statement into a question.

"She read a book last week."

Select the correct option.

Select one.

- A) Did she read a book last week?
- B) Was she reading a book last week?
- C) Does she read a book last week?
- D) Is she reading a book last week?

10. Turn this statement into a simple past sentence.

"He walks his dog in the morning."

Select one.

- A) He walked his dog in the morning.
- B) He was walking his dog in the morning.
- C) He walks his dog in the morning.
- D) He has walked his dog in the morning.

11. Select the correct option.

Sarah was studying in the library, and she finally finished her project. What _____ Sarah doing in the library?

Choose the correct option for each gap.

- A) did
- B) was
- C) were
- D) is

12. Fill in the blanks with the correct verb forms of "to eat."

She usually _____ a sandwich for lunch, but yesterday she _____ pizza.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) eat
- B) eats
- C) ate

Blank 2

- A) eat
- B) eats
- C) ate

13. Choose the correct verb form to complete the sentence.

While I was shopping yesterday, I _____ into an old friend of mine.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

- A) run
- B) ran
- C) am running
- D) was running

14. Choose the correct verb forms to complete the sentence.

As soon as he _____ the news, he _____ to call his family.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) heard
- B) hears
- C) hear

Blank 2

- A) was starting
- B) started
- C) starts
- D) start

15. Form a question.

"They were playing soccer in the park all afternoon."

Select one.

- A) Were they playing soccer in the park all afternoon?
- B) Did they play soccer in the park all afternoon?
- C) Are they playing soccer in the park all afternoon?
- D) Do they play soccer in the park all afternoon?

16. Choose the correct verb forms to complete the sentence.

She _____ dinner when the phone _____.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) cooked
- B) was cooking
- C) cooks
- D) is cooking

Blank 2

- A) rang
- B) rings
- C) ring

17. Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the verb "to be."

She _____ a great dancer now, but she _____ not very good when she started.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) is
- B) was
- C) were

Blank 2

- A) was
- B) is
- C) were

18. Form a question.

"I was watching television when the power went out."

Answers:

Select one.

- A) Was I watching television when the power went out?
- B) Did I watch television when the power went out?
- C) Am I watching television when the power went out?
- D) Do I watch television when the power went out?

19. Turn this statement into a past simple sentence.

"She always does her homework on time."

Answer options:

Select one.

- A) She always did her homework on time.
- B) She always does her homework on time.
- C) She always was doing her homework on time.
- D) She always done her homework on time.

20. Fill in the blanks with the correct verb forms of "to drink."

Normally, he _____ his coffee black, but this morning he _____ it with milk.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) drinks
- B) drink
- C) drank

Blank 2

- A) drank
- B) drunk
- C) drinks