



Mixed Tenses: Present Tenses Mixed

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. I ___ coffee every morning before work.
a) am drinking
b) have drunk
c) have been drinking
d) drink
2. She ___ on a new project at the moment.
a) works
b) is working
c) has worked
d) has been working
3. They ___ in London for ten years now.
a) live
b) are living
c) have lived
d) have been living
4. Look! It ___ outside.
a) rains
b) has rained
c) has been raining
d) is raining
5. Water ___ at 100 degrees Celsius.
a) boils
b) is boiling
c) has boiled
d) has been boiling
6. I ___ this book three times already.
a) read
b) am reading
c) have read
d) have been reading
7. He ___ all day and he's exhausted.
a) works
b) is working
c) has worked
d) has been working
8. The train ___ at 9:15 every day.
a) leaves
b) is leaving
c) has left
d) has been leaving
9. I'm sorry, I ___ your name. Can you repeat it?
a) forget
b) am forgetting
c) have forgotten
d) have been forgetting
10. She ___ to the gym twice a week.
a) is going
b) goes
c) has gone
d) has been going
11. Why ___ you ___ at me like that?
a) do ... look
b) are ... looking
c) have ... looked
d) have ... been looking

12. I ___ never ___ sushi before.
a) have ... tried
b) am ... trying
c) do ... try
d) have ... been trying
13. The children ___ in the garden. Can you see them?
a) play
b) have played
c) are playing
d) have been playing
14. She ___ English since she was five years old.
a) learns
b) is learning
c) has learned
d) has been learning
15. I ___ what you mean. It's very clear.
a) understand
b) am understanding
c) have understood
d) have been understanding
16. How long ___ you ___ for this company?
a) do ... work
b) are ... working
c) have ... worked
d) have ... been working
17. Be quiet! The baby _____.
a) sleeps
b) is sleeping
c) has slept
d) has been sleeping
18. This cake ___ delicious! Did you make it yourself?
a) tastes
b) is tasting
c) has tasted
d) has been tasting
19. I ___ to call you all morning, but your phone was off.
a) try
b) am trying
c) have tried
d) have been trying
20. She ___ as a nurse at the city hospital.
a) is working
b) works
c) has worked
d) has been working



Answers

1. d) drink
2. b) is working
3. c) have lived
4. d) is raining
5. a) boils
6. c) have read
7. d) has been working
8. a) leaves
9. c) have forgotten
10. b) goes
11. b) are ... looking
12. a) have ... tried
13. c) are playing
14. d) has been learning
15. a) understand
16. c) have ... worked
17. b) is sleeping
18. a) tastes
19. d) have been trying
20. b) works



Explanations

1. “drink” (d)

Use Present Simple for habits and routines. 'Every morning' indicates a regular habit.

2. “is working” (b)

Use Present Continuous for actions happening now. 'At the moment' signals a current activity.

3. “have lived” (c)

Both Present Perfect ('have lived') and Present Perfect Continuous ('have been living') are correct here. 'Have lived' emphasizes the fact/result, while 'have been living' emphasizes the ongoing duration. In this exercise, we accept both.

4. “is raining” (d)

Use Present Continuous for something happening right now. 'Look!' draws attention to a current event.

5. “boils” (a)

Use Present Simple for scientific facts and general truths.

6. “have read” (c)

Use Present Perfect for completed actions with 'already' or when mentioning how many times something has happened.

7. “has been working” (d)

Use Present Perfect Continuous to emphasize the duration of an activity that has a present result (he's exhausted).

8. “leaves” (a)

Use Present Simple for timetables and scheduled events.

9. “have forgotten” (c)

Use Present Perfect for a recent action with a present result (you don't remember the name now).

10. “goes” (b)

Use Present Simple for regular activities. 'Twice a week' indicates frequency.

11. “are ... looking” (b)

Use Present Continuous for an action happening right now that you're questioning.

12. “have ... tried” (a)

Use Present Perfect with 'never' to talk about experiences up to now.

13. “are playing” (c)

Use Present Continuous for an action happening at this moment. 'Can you see them?' confirms it's happening now.

14. “has been learning” (d)

Use Present Perfect Continuous for an action that started in the past and is still ongoing, emphasizing the duration.

15. “understand” (a)

Use Present Simple with stative verbs like 'understand'. These verbs are not normally used in continuous forms.

16. “have ... worked” (c)

Both 'have worked' and 'have been working' are correct with 'How long'. 'Have worked' focuses on the total duration, while 'have been working' emphasizes the continuous nature of the activity.

17. “is sleeping” (b)

Use Present Continuous for a temporary action happening now. 'Be quiet!' suggests the action is in progress.

18. “tastes” (a)

Use Present Simple with sense verbs like 'taste' when describing a quality, not an action.

19. “have been trying” (d)

Use Present Perfect Continuous to emphasize repeated attempts over a period of time.

20. “works” (b)

Use Present Simple for permanent situations and jobs.