

IELTS Language Practice



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English Grammar
and Vocabulary



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1

GRAMMAR



Present time

Present simple

- For personal routines and habits, often with a frequency adverb (*always, sometimes, etc*):

I always get to work by 9.00.

In winter we usually go skiing most weekends.

- For statements of fact, generalizations, or things that always happen:

This train goes to Milan.

All cars, except electric ones, cause air pollution.

A wave transfers energy from one place to another.

- For technical or scientific facts and definitions:

Inflation is an economic process in which prices increase and money loses value.

- To describe what something does, and how things happen:

An espresso coffee maker forces water through the coffee grounds using the pressure of heated water. When the water boils, it rises up a tube, through the coffee grounds, and into the container at the top.

Present continuous

- For actions happening at the moment of speaking and unfinished:

Jean is using the computer at the moment.

- For actions that continue for some time:

We're having a lot of problems with the new equipment.

- With some verbs, e.g. *read, write, work*, the action is generally ongoing, but not happening at the moment of speaking:

I'm working on a new project.

- For changing states, especially with e.g. *increase, change, get + adjective*:

Most scientists agree that the world is getting hotter.

In some countries the birth rate is falling year on year.

Types of verb

Some verbs are more commonly found in the simple form. Use a dictionary to check use.

Typical examples are:

- Feelings and emotions: *like/dislike, mean, value*

- Believing, thinking, knowing: *assume, believe, consider, estimate, expect, recognize, regard, suppose*

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

- Preferring: *prefer, want, wish*
- Sensing: *distinguish, observe*
- Being, having, seeming, owning: *appear to be, belong to, come from, comprise, consist of, contain, cost, equal, exist, include, involve doing, own, mean doing, possess, prove, represent, resemble, result from, sound, tend to, weigh*

Other verbs have different meanings in the simple and continuous forms:

- *What do you think?* = Tell me your opinion.
What are you thinking? = Tell me your thoughts.
- *How much does this weigh?* = its weight.
I'm weighing myself. = finding my weight.

Question and negative forms

- Questions may be formed using *do + infinitive* without *to* or *be + present participle*:
Do you do skiing most weekends?
Does this train go to Milan?
- Questions may also be formed by inverting the verb and subject/object:
Is Jean using the computer?
Are they here yet?
What forces the water through the coffee? (subject)
What does the pressure do? (object)
- Some verbs only refer to subjects:
What happens/occurs?
- Negatives are formed by using *do + not + infinitive* without *to* or *be + not + present participle*:
I don't always get to work by 9.00.
We aren't having problems with the new equipment.

→ SEE ALSO

Grammar 10: Direct and indirect questions

GRAMMAR 1 PRESENT TIME**1 Find the best answer a–j for each question 1–10.**

- 1 What do you want to study and why? **d**.....
 - 2 What do you spend more time doing – reading or watching TV?
 - 3 What sort of music do you generally listen to?
 - 4 What kind of transport do you usually use?
 - 5 What part of your country do you live in?
 - 6 What do most people do there?
 - 7 What sort of sport do you like best?
 - 8 How do you usually spend the summer?
 - 9 What sort of things do you like to do at the weekend?
 - 10 Do you rely a lot on your mobile phone?
- a** I sometimes ride my motorbike to college, but I also use public transport.
b I tend to watch TV when I'm tired, but I also like reading when I have the time.
c Quite a lot work in the tourist industry.
d I'm hoping to become an architect and join my father's business.
e I come from a small town by the sea in the north of the country.
f Yes I do, especially for keeping in touch with my friends.
g I generally try to relax and go out with my friends.
h I really love tennis, and play as much as I can.
i I usually take a holiday job and earn some money.
j I download a lot of jazz tracks from the internet.

2 Underline the most suitable verb form in each sentence.**A new approach to traffic control**

As our city streets (1) become/becoming more congested with traffic, planners (2) begin/are beginning to wonder whether previous attempts to control this traffic through parking and stopping restrictions, traffic lights and so on are in fact part of the problem rather than part of the solution. Now as part of a European Union project, in some parts of Europe local authorities (3) remove/are removing all traffic signs in city centres. The planners behind this idea (4) want/are wanting drivers and pedestrians to cooperate, and they (5) believe/are believing that taking away all road signs, line markings and railings, etc generally (6) encourages/is encouraging road users to be more responsible towards each other. 'Nowadays people (7) lose/are losing the habit of being considerate to each other,' one traffic expert (8) explains/is explaining. 'Generally speaking, when there are so many signs telling everyone what to do, any sense of responsibility (9) disappears/is disappearing.' Recent research (10) also shows/is also showing that most drivers (11) generally ignore/are generally ignoring the majority of road signs in any case, so this new approach probably (12) makes/is making sense. Initially, seven cities and regions (13) take part/are taking part in the project. The centre of Makkinga in the Netherlands, for example, (14) no longer contains/is no longer containing any stop signs, direction signs, parking meters or stopping restrictions. And one interesting result so far is that the number of reported accidents (15) goes down/is going down.

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

3 Complete each sentence with the present simple or present continuous form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 Hello, (you/wait) *are you waiting* for me?
- 2 (the price of the room/include) breakfast?
- 3 The word *physics* (come) from the ancient Greek term for *nature*.
- 4 (this laptop/belong) to you?
- 5 It (get) cold. Shall I turn on the heating?
- 6 Look, a lot of people (get on) that bus. Is that one ours?
- 7 I (think) we'd better check the figures again.
- 8 I'm sorry it (take) so long, but I haven't had a reply from head office yet.
- 9 I'm not sure I want to go to university. I (have) second thoughts.
- 10 The word 'it' in line 12 (refer) to 'the decision'.

4 Complete each sentence with the present simple or present continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

Working from home

- 1 Nowadays more and more people (choose) *are choosing* to work from home.
- 2 In some companies employees (have) the option of spending part of the week working out of the office.
- 3 But in a changing economy, the number of people who run their own businesses from home (increase)
- 4 Of course, homeworkers (depend) heavily on using the Internet and email.
- 5 According to Karen Holmes, a financial consultant, it (become) easier and easier to run your own business from home.
- 6 'Working at home obviously (save) a lot of time, and you can concentrate on what you (work) on when you really feel like it.'
- 7 'I (sometimes/find) myself popping out to the shops or doing housework, but on the whole I think it (suit) certain kinds of job.'
- 8 This sounds like a great idea but (it/have) any disadvantages?
- 9 'At the moment I (work) on a project with three other colleagues in different parts of the world.'
- 10 Emails are fine, but we also (feel) it's necessary to have video-conferences, just to know that we (all/head) in the right direction, and also to keep in touch on a personal level.'

GRAMMAR 1 PRESENT TIME

- 5** Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the verb in bold. Do not change the words given.

1 What do you have to do in your job?

involve

What does your job *involve*.....?

2 There are five parts to the examination.

consists of

The examination

3 This animal is not the same species as that animal.

belong to

These animals same species.

4 African elephants are generally taller than their Asian counterparts.

tend

African elephants

5 What is your approximate weight?

do

How much approximately?

6 The cost of the meal is part of the ticket price

includes

The

7 Professor Sanchez is Spanish.

comes

..... Spain.

8 What's the meaning of this word?

mean

What

?

9 I think these two samples are the same.

appear

These

10 A chemical reaction in a laboratory caused the fire.

resulted from

The fire

2

GRAMMAR

Past time

Past simple

- To describe finished events in the past with a definite time, or a past time context:

*In 1684 Newton **published** his theory of gravity.*

*During a storm, the bridge **collapsed**.*

- To describe past conditions, routines and habits:

*Women and children **worked** in the mines hauling coal along narrow tunnels.*

*My father **took** the 8.15 train every morning for thirty years.*

*Whenever they **went** shopping together, they always **had** coffee at the same café.*

Many common verbs have irregular past forms:

*A hundred candidates **took** the test.*

*What events **led** to the American Revolution?*

Past tense forms without past time meaning

- Past tense forms also appear in conditional sentences, but do not refer to past time:

*If I **knew** the answer, I would tell you.*

Past continuous

- In a narrative context with events in past simple, past continuous describes continuing unfinished actions:

*The ship **was sinking**, and there weren't enough lifeboats for all the passengers.*

- Continuing unfinished actions describe the background to a sudden event:

*While they **were getting** into the lifeboats, the ship suddenly went down.*

- Past continuous verbs can describe a number of activities used as background:

*We looked out across the sea. Passengers **were floating** in the water and sailors **were trying** to pull them into the lifeboats.*

- It is possible to describe two continuing events happening at the same time:

*While the passengers **were beginning** to lose hope, rescue ships **were approaching**.*

- Describing a changing situation:

*The weather **was getting** worse by the hour.*

Participle clauses

- Clauses with past continuous are often made into participle time clauses:

*While (**they were**) **waiting**, the passengers filled in the forms.*

→ SEE ALSO

Grammar 29: Participle clauses

Grammar 10: Subject and object questions

GRAMMAR 2 PAST TIME**1 Underline the most suitable verb form in each sentence.****The 'Miracle on the Hudson'**

- 1 First Officer Jeffery Skiles piloted/was piloting the Airbus A320 when it took off/was taking off from La Guardia airport at 3.25 pm on Jan 15th 2009.
- 2 While it still climbed/was still climbing, and below 1,000 metres, he noticed/was noticing a flock of birds which came/was coming towards the aircraft.
- 3 A few minutes later the plane collided/was colliding with the birds and the engines lost/were losing power.
- 4 The Captain, Chesley Sullenberger, took over/was taking over the controls at this point, and Skiles tried/was trying to restart the engines.
- 5 Sullenberger got/was getting permission from La Guardia control tower to land back at the airport, but since the plane rapidly lost/was rapidly losing height, it soon became/was becoming clear that this would not be possible.
- 6 With no power in the engines, Sullenberger made/was making an instant decision, and decided/was deciding to land the plane on the Hudson River, the only free space available.
- 7 As office workers watched/were watching in amazement, he managed/was managing to make a perfect landing on the water close to Manhattan just six minutes after take-off.
- 8 The passengers followed/were following the safety instructions given by the crew, and with their assistance all left/were leaving the aircraft, including one passenger who travelled/was travelling in a wheelchair.
- 9 Nearby boats quickly rescued/were quickly rescuing the passengers from the freezing water and from the wings of the plane, which slowly filled/was slowly filling with water.
- 10 All the passengers and crew survived/were surviving without serious injury, and the crew later received/were receiving awards for their conduct.

2 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence.

- 1 What were you in my room for?
What were you doing in my room?
- 2 The start of the match was at 3.00.
The match at 3.00.
- 3 The temperature was rising.
It hotter.
- 4 After the explosion, what was your next action?
What the explosion?
- 5 We had lunch during our wait.
While lunch.
- 6 On her death, the newspapers described her as the country's greatest writer.
When the country's greatest writer.
- 7 The police do not know the exact cause of the crash.
The police do not know what exactly
- 8 What was your address at the time of the robbery?
Where at the time of the robbery?

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

- 3 Complete each sentence by writing the past simple or past continuous form of the verb in brackets in each space.**

- 1 When I (hear) **heard** the noise I (look) out of the window, but I couldn't see what (happen)
- 2 We (wait) in a queue for nearly an hour, but after that we (decide) to complain because it (take) so long to get the tickets.
- 3 The accused (drive) home after a party when he (lose) control of his car on a roundabout and (collide) with another vehicle.
- 4 The injured man (not carry) any form of identification, and nobody could understand exactly what he (say)
- 5 I (find) myself in a rather difficult situation. It (start)..... to rain, and the temperature (fall) rapidly, I (wear) only light summer clothes and it was a long way back to the road.
- 6 An archaeological rescue dig (cause) further delays to the projects, as engineers (come) unexpectedly upon the remains of a 3rd century palace while work on the site (get) under way.

- 4 Complete the text by writing the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs in brackets in each space.**

Cholera epidemics in 19th century London

People in London in the mid-nineteenth century greatly (1) **feared** (fear) cholera. At this time doctors (2) (believe) that cholera (3) (circulate) through the air, and (4) (not realize) that all the time raw sewage (5) (enter) the water supply, and that the disease (6) (spread) through the domestic water system. Although in the 17th and 18th centuries London (7) (possess) a water supply system and a sewage system which were adequate for a small city, the population (8) (now rise) year by year and the authorities (9) (do) little to keep pace with the changing situation. Broken water pipes and sewage pipes often (10) (flow) into one another, and most sewage (11) (end up) in the River Thames, which was the main source of drinking water for thousands. Between 1831 and 1867 a series of severe outbreaks (12) (occur). In the outbreak of 1848–49, there were over 30,000 cases of the disease in London, and 15,000 people (13) (die). By the mid 1860s the situation (14) (improve) mainly because by then engineers (15) (work on) the construction of a completely new sewage system, which they (16) (complete) in 1875, and which is still in use today.

GRAMMAR 2 PAST TIME**5 Complete the text by writing a verb from the box in each space.**

opened	died	came	occurred	was getting down	intended
was holding	included		carried	was walking	stopped
knocked	was attending		decided	entered	was travelling

The death of William Huskisson

When the Liverpool to Manchester Railway (1)opened.... in 1830 the history of transport (2) a new phase. As if to underline this fact, the opening ceremony (3) what we would now call a celebrity railway accident. While he (4) the opening celebrations, William Huskisson, an MP and former member of the government, (5) along the line on the same train as the Prime Minister, the Duke of Wellington. At one point the train (6) and the distinguished passengers (7) to get off and watch a procession of local people. Apparently Huskisson (8) to cross the track so as to shake hands with the Duke, but as he (9) from the train, a steam engine (10) down the other line next to the train. It hit the door that Huskisson (11) and (12) him under the wheels. Workmen (13) him to a nearby house, but he (14) a few hours later. Huskisson was not the first casualty of the railway age. This probably (15) in 1821 when a train hit a man who (16) home along the Middleton Railway in a storm. However the dawn of the Age of Railway Accidents will always be associated with the unfortunate Huskisson.

6 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using a noun formed from the verb underlined.

- 1 After the Prime Minister arrived, the conference began.
After the arrival of the Prime Minister , the conference began .
- 2 After she decided to become a pilot, Amelia took flying lessons.
After her , Amelia took flying lessons.
- 3 After he invented the gramophone, Edison became famous.
After his , Edison became famous.
- 4 Before they discovered America, explorers believed Asia was on the other side of the Atlantic.
Before their , explorers believed Asia was on the other side of the Atlantic.
- 5 While they were flying, the pilot realized something was wrong.
During the , the pilot realized something was wrong.
- 6 After he died, Van Gogh was recognized as a great artist.
After his , Van Gogh was recognized as a great artist.
- 7 While they were constructing the dam, there were several accidents.
During the , there were several accidents.
- 8 While they were investigating the robbery, the police interviewed two men.
During the , the police interviewed two men.

3

GRAMMAR

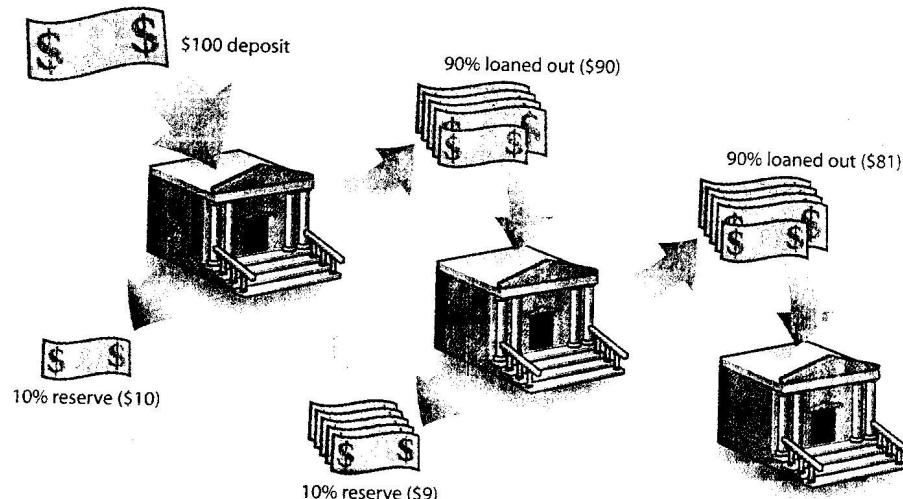
Practice 1

- 1 Complete the text by writing the correct form of a verb from the box in each space. Sometimes a negative form may be needed.

do	go out	keep	purchase	require
end up	hold back	make	receive	set

How do banks help the economy?

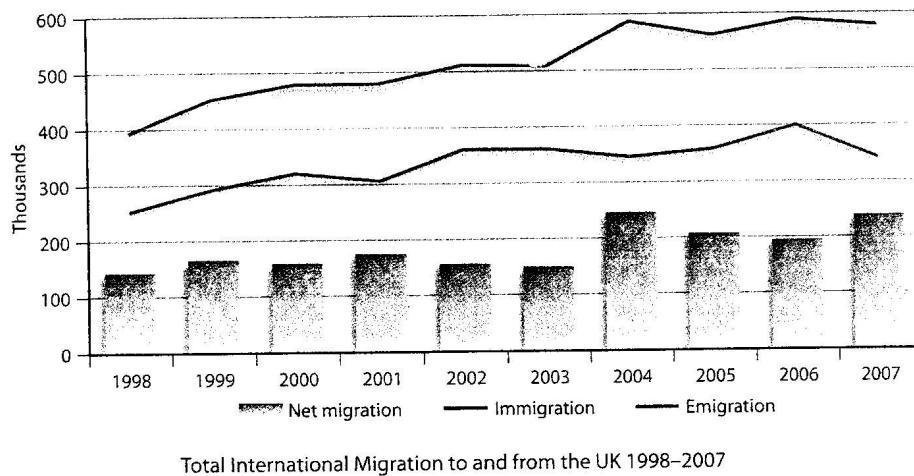
The banking system (1) money available to fuel the economy. It (2) this by lending money to customers. However, banks always (3) a certain amount of money in reserve. In some countries a central government authority, such as the Federal Reserve in the USA, (4) this reserve figure. The example below shows a 10% reserve figure, although many banking systems (5) the banks to keep to a precise figure. The bank either (6) this reserve amount in cash, or has credit for this amount at the central bank. When a bank (7) a deposit (\$100) it can lend 90% of this sum (\$90). This sum then (8) into the economy, where it (9) goods or services, and usually (10) in another bank. This second bank can then lend 90% of this deposit, and so on. In this way money circulates through the economy.



US banking system

GRAMMAR 3 PRACTICE 1

- 2** The graph gives information about UK population figures from 1998–2007. Read the text and complete the questions that follow, using the information in brackets. Make any necessary changes.



Total International Migration to and from the UK 1998–2007

Every year quite large numbers of people move from their own countries to live in the UK. This table shows the figures for International Migrants, defined as 'someone who changes their country of usual residence for at least a year'. Between 1998 and 2002 there was a steady rise in immigration, from just under 400,000 to over 500,000 per year. Although this figure remained more or less constant for the following year, a steep rise occurred between 2003 and 2004. This trend fell slightly in 2005, returned to 2004 levels in 2006, and now shows a slight downward trend. Of arrivals in 2007, 87% were non-British. They included 96,000 Polish citizens.

At the same time, large numbers of people leave the UK every year, either to return home, or to start a new life elsewhere. This trend peaked in 2006, when around 400,000 people left, but declined steeply in 2007. A fall in British citizens emigrating to Spain and France largely caused this drop in the numbers.

- 1 What information (the text and table/present) do the text and table present?
- 2 How (the text/define) an International Migrant?
- 3 In the immigration figures, what (happen) between 1998 and 2002?
- 4 (this figure/rise or fall) over the following year?
- 5 What (occur) between 2003 and 2004?
- 6 (this trend/continue) over the following three years or not?
- 7 How many Polish citizens (the 2007 arrivals figures/include) ?
- 8 When (the emigration figures/peak) ?
- 9 (this figure/remain) the same in the following year?
- 10 What (cause) this change?

- 3** Now write the answers to the questions.

- | | | | |
|---|-------|----|-------|
| 1 | | 6 | |
| 2 | | 7 | |
| 3 | | 8 | |
| 4 | | 9 | |
| 5 | | 10 | |

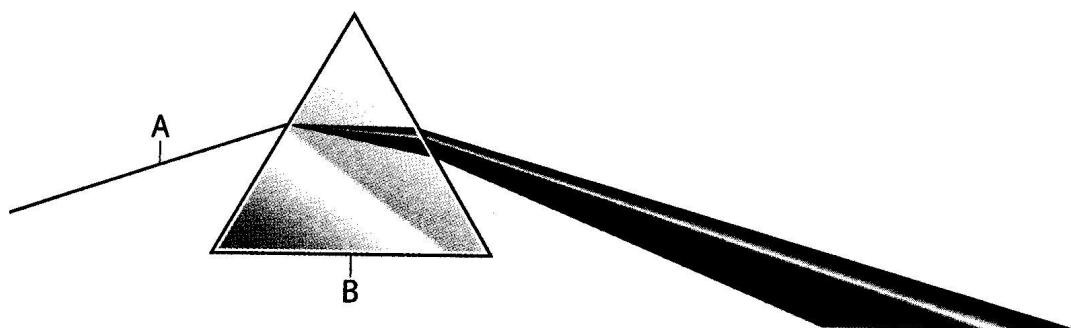
IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

4 Complete the text by writing a phrase from the box in each space.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| become visible | depends on the wavelength of the beam |
| causes the light to bend | sees the range of colours |
| leaves the raindrop | separates into different colours |
| falls on one face | acts as a tiny prism |

What causes a rainbow?

A prism is a triangular piece of glass or plastic. When a beam of light (A) (1) ... falls on one face ... of the prism (B), the white light (2) This occurs because the glass (3) and this affects colours in different ways. The degree of bending (4) and as different colours have different wavelengths, the colours spread out and (5) We call these separated colours a 'spectrum'.



When it rains, each raindrop (6) and as light enters and leaves the raindrop, it breaks up into a spectrum. As each colour (7) at a slightly different angle, the eye (8) as a rainbow in the sky.

4

GRAMMAR

Present perfect

Present perfect simple

- For everyday events connected to the present, without a definite past time.

Events may be recent, or part of the current situation:

What has happened?

The lights have failed!

Astronomers have discovered three more moons orbiting the planet.

The time can be all time up to the present and need not have a time reference:

No one has proved that intelligent life exists on other planets.

- Time references

The use of some time expressions is linked with the present perfect simple:

Recently the number of car owners has risen dramatically.

The situation has worsened since the end of 2001.

This is the first time researchers have found this insect in the Antarctic.

The authorities have already taken measures to deal with the problem.

Present perfect simple or past simple?

- Indefinite and definite time

In this sentence the action has happened in a period up to the present, and may well continue:

This company has produced some excellent products. (present perfect simple)

In this sentence the action is finished. The company may no longer exist. The events are in a period of time not connected to the present:

The ABC company produced some very successful products. (past simple)

Compare these time references:

So far/Up until now the ABC company has produced ... (present perfect simple)

At that time/Once/In the past the ABC company produced ... (past simple)

Present perfect continuous

- For recent continuing activities, emphasizing the length of the activities, and suggesting that the activity will continue.

They have been investigating the same problem for many years.

Present perfect continuous or present perfect simple?

- With verbs which describe a continuing state, e.g. *live, work*, there is little contrast:

How long has Tom worked here? How long has Tom been working here?

The team has been working on this project for the past six months.

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

- With verbs which describe events, present perfect simple emphasizes completion:

They've found some interesting results. (completed)

They've been finding some interesting results. (during a recent period – not completed)

Use depends on context, and on the choice of the user.

Present perfect simple and continuous uses

- To describe recent trends and developments:

The political situation has now improved.

A series of poor harvests has led to a rise in migration away from the countryside.

Over the past decade, the amount of water consumed has increased twofold.

In recent years, the area has been experiencing something of a renaissance.

Present continuous or present perfect continuous?

- In many cases, when we describe uncompleted actions, we can use either present continuous, to show what is happening now; or present perfect continuous, to show that it has been happening for a period of time up to now.

In these examples, each tense describes the actions of the scientists, but with a different emphasis.

Using present continuous emphasizes that they are currently studying the data:

Scientists are studying the data, and hope to publish their results soon.

Using present perfect continuous emphasizes the period of time during which they have been studying the data:

Scientists have been studying the data, and hope to publish their results soon.

→ SEE ALSO

Grammar 8: Time words

Grammar 10: Direct and indirect questions

GRAMMAR 4 PRESENT PERFECT

1 Underline the most suitable verb form in each sentence.

Water on Mars

- 1 Scientists have recently discovered/recently discovered that there are traces of water beneath the surface of Mars.
- 2 Instruments carried by the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) which has been circling/was circling the planet since 2006, have detected/detected large quantities of ice beneath the surface at the bottom of meteorite craters.
- 3 The MRO has found/found the new craters in August last year.
- 4 As the ice has quickly melted/quickly melted on the planet's surface, the discovery has been/was fortunate.
- 5 Although the research programme has found/found traces of water at the poles during its early stages, this is the first time it has detected/it detected ice half way between the planet's north pole and its equator.
- 6 This suggested that there has been/was a lot more water below the surface than previously supposed.
- 7 Scientists have also believed/also believed they understood the origins of this ice.
- 8 Their theory has been/was that the climate of Mars was more humid up until a few thousand years ago, and that the water in this ice has come from/is coming from this earlier period.
- 9 Since its arrival in Mars orbit, the MRO has been monitoring/was monitoring surface and weather conditions. It has also studied/It has also been studying potential landing sites for future Mars programmes.
- 10 According to experts, this latest discovery has shown/has been showing that the MRO is well worth the \$720million it has cost/cost to build.

2 Complete each short text with the present simple or continuous, present perfect simple or continuous, or past simple or continuous form of the verbs in brackets. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

Text 1

In a surprise announcement, the Governor of the Central Bank (1) has announced (announce) his resignation. 'I (2) (spend) eight years in this post,' he (3) (tell) reporters, 'and I (4) (feel) that this is the time to move on.' The Governor, who previously (5) (hold) the post of Professor of Economics at Cambridge University, (6) (now consider) a return to academic life.

Text 2

Since the new flu virus (7) (make) its appearance last year, the Health Authority (8) (prepare) to respond to a pandemic, and local hospitals (9) (already draw up) detailed plans. In March the Authority (10) (start) to stockpile essential supplies, and more recently (11) (also begin) the process of creating a pool of extra staff from people who (12) (already work) for the organization, in order to deal with any possible staff shortages.

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

- 3 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using present perfect simple or continuous and a form of the word underlined.**

- 1 The company provides financial services, and was established 14 years ago.
The company for the past 14 years.
- 2 Fiona Allan writes the 'Science Impact' books, and there are five so far in the series.
..... of the 'Science Impact' series so far.
- 3 If there is life on other planets, it is so far undiscovered.
Scientists so far.
- 4 The construction of the Olympic Stadium is now complete.
The construction team
- 5 The company started green vehicle production two years ago.
..... for the past two years.
- 6 Professor Thompson now lives in Vancouver, where she arrived four years ago.
..... for four years.
- 7 Ann Smith became chief executive five years ago, and still holds this post.
..... for the past five years.
- 8 Recent statistics show a rise in the number of young people entering higher education.
The number
- 9 The satellite started circling the Moon two years ago.
..... recently.
- 10 The research team's conclusion is that the new vaccine is not effective.
..... the new vaccine is not effective.

- 4 Complete the text by writing a suitable form of the verb in brackets in each space.**

Is a best friend good for your health?

When we (1) consider (consider) how many thousands of years humans (2) (live) with dogs, it is surprising that the serious scientific study of the interaction between animals and humans (3) (only recently begin). There (4) (always be) plenty of anecdotal evidence, but serious research into this relationship is relatively recent. The question is whether (5) (there be) any real health benefits in owning a dog. Recently researchers (6) (look) at this in more detail, and results (7) (seem) to suggest that dogs can indeed help to improve our health. Dog-owners (8) (recover) more rapidly from stress and have lower heart rates and blood pressure. Taking the dog for a walk is good exercise, as you will know if you (9) (ever own) a dog, and the social connections made through having a dog are beneficial to older people. As one subject comments in the report, 'Since I got my dog, my life has (10) (change) out of all recognition. I (11) (meet) new people, and as far as my health is concerned, I (12) (never feel) fitter. I (13) (never think) a dog could make so much difference!' Some researchers (14) (also investigate) links between health and other types of pet, and some (15) (believe) their results prove that even a pet snake or rat is good for the health.

GRAMMAR 4 PRESENT PERFECT

- 5 Write a new sentence with a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word in bold. Do not change the word given.

1 The project is still continuing.

yet

..... The project hasn't finished yet.

2 There has never been such a serious financial crisis before.

first

.....

3 There is no proof that the dinosaurs died in this way.

proved

.....

4 The situation is not the same as it was in 2008.

since

.....

5 It hasn't stopped raining yet.

still

.....

6 This is my first visit to Bulgaria.

been

.....

7 Do you know Professor Johnson?

before

.....

- 6 Complete the text by writing the suitable form of the verb in brackets in each space.

It is not generally known that Rudolf Diesel originally (1) designed.... (design) the engine that (2) (bear) his name to use vegetable oil. Now, with increasing oil prices, interest in producing such bio-fuels (3) (rise). In recent years, companies in some Pacific nations, where coconut trees are common, (4) (experiment) with coconut oil as a fuel. The price of coconut oil (5) (soar) lately, so the idea is to export coconut fuel oil to the US and Europe, rather than use it at home. However, use of coconut fuel oil (6) (be) common in the past on Pacific islands, especially during World War Two when the islands (7) (suffer) fuel shortages, and in recent years there (8) (be) more interest in using coconut oil fuel for local consumption. The oil has disadvantages, however, as it (9) (begin) to solidify below 25°C and (10) (contain) many impurities which can damage diesel engines. However, a company in the Marshall Islands (11) (use) the oil in diesel trucks for some years without too many problems. After some earlier experiments, they (12) (find) that a blend of coconut oil with diesel (13) (work) best, and recently (14) (also combine) coconut oil with other fuels, such as kerosene. In Samoa, the electricity company (15) (use) a coconut oil blend successfully for some years in its generators. So in the future, coconut oil (16) (seem) likely to become an important economic factor in the fuel industry in this region.

5

GRAMMAR



Past perfect, used to

Past perfect simple and continuous

- For events in the past which happen before other events in the past:

*Once she had decided to become a pilot, Amelia took flying lessons in California.
She had been considering a career in nursing, but now knew what she wanted to do.*

- To make the order of events clear when there is no time expression:

She had thought a lot about her career and knew she wanted to be a pilot.

It may be clearer in a narrative of past events to use a participle clause instead of the past perfect. See Grammar 29.

After deciding to become a pilot, Amelia took flying lessons in California.

Using a past time reference word also makes the narrative clearer and in this case it is not necessary to use the past perfect to show which event came first:

Amelia decided to become a pilot, and then took flying lessons.

Reports and report verbs

- Past perfect tenses are common in report structures:

She informed the board that she had already accepted the other position.

Her actual words were:

'I have already accepted the other position.'

- Past perfect tenses also report past simple statements:

He told the police that he hadn't seen the other car.

His actual words were:

'I did not see the other car.'

- Past perfect tenses are common with verbs such as *realize, remember, know, understand*:

When he looked again, he realized that something unusual had happened.

I didn't know you'd taken the keys.

At the time we did not fully understand what had happened.

Past perfect uses

- Only use past perfect tenses when necessary, to show that one event in the past happened before another event in the past.

- The past perfect is not used to emphasize that an event happened a long time ago. For this we would use a time expression:

His great-grandfather was on the Titanic when it went down in 1912.

- In past narrative, what would be present perfect tenses in a present time context become past perfect tenses:

Finally they could see the train in the distance. It had finally arrived!

Used to

- For habits and states in the past, especially when we make contrasts with the present. Any time reference tends to be general. The pronunciation is /ju:st tə:/:

Scientists used to think that the Galapagos islands were once connected to the mainland, but they now believe that this is not the case.

- Form questions and negatives using the auxiliary *did*:

Didn't you use to live in London?

I didn't use to like him, but we've been married for five years!

- *Used to* refers only to the past. The construction *be used to (doing) something* has no connection with *used to* and means 'be accustomed to something':

Jones was not used to running so much, and soon became tired.

→ SEE ALSO

Grammar 10: Direct and indirect questions

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

This unit includes tense contrasts with past simple and past continuous (see Grammar 2).

1 Underline the most suitable verb form in each sentence.

The Great Toronto Fire

- 1 The Great Toronto Fire of 1904 destroyed/had destroyed a large part of central Toronto, Canada.
- 2 A policeman on patrol first noticed/was first noticing the fire at around 8.00 in the evening.
- 3 The flames had risen/were rising from the roof of a clothing factory.
- 4 The local fire brigade did its best, but was never expecting/had never expected to have to deal with such a large fire.
- 5 By the time the fire was under control, it burned/it had been burning for nine hours.
- 6 The situation was made worse by the strong winds which had blown/were blowing that night.
- 7 By the time the fire was put out, it destroyed/had destroyed more than a hundred buildings.
- 8 Fortunately it had not killed/was not killing anyone.
- 9 Later investigations never established/had never established the exact cause of the fire.
- 10 It caused over \$10 million of damage, and put/had put five thousand people out of work.

2 Complete each sentence by writing the past simple, past continuous or past perfect simple form of the verbs in brackets in each space.

- 1 While they (examine) the results for the second time, the scientists (notice) a pattern which they (previously overlook)
- 2 I (stare) out of the tent at the worsening weather. The rain (still fall) and it (grow) colder. Luckily I (pack) warm clothes so I (not think) that I was in any danger.
- 3 When I (return) to the hospital for a check-up, the doctor who (see) me could hardly believe how much I (progress) , since he (not expect) my condition to improve.
- 4 Although medieval alchemists were not chemists in the modern sense, they (develop) some important chemical skills while they (search) for the secret of turning metals into gold.
- 5 A man (drown) while he (try) to save a small girl who (fall) into a fast-flowing river. He could not be rescued by onlookers because the local council (remove) safety equipment, because vandals (repeatedly steal) them.

GRAMMAR 5 PAST PERFECT, USED TO

- 3 Complete each short text with the past simple or past perfect form of the verbs in brackets. In some cases, both tenses are acceptable.**

Scientific pioneers

- 1 Isaac Newton was born in 1643 in a small village in Lincolnshire in England. His father (1) (die) some three months before his birth, and his mother (2) (remarry) in 1646. At the age of 18 he (3) (enter) Trinity College, Cambridge, even though some years earlier his mother (4) (take) him out of school to work on the farm. She (5) (became) a widow for the second time by then, but (6) (listen) to Newton's schoolmaster, and (7) (send) him back to school.
- 2 On January 7th 1610, Galileo (8) (observe) the movements of what he thought were three small stars close to the planet Jupiter. He was using a simple telescope, of a type which he (9) (make) for the past two years. When he (10) (look) at the three 'stars' on the following nights, he (11) (see) that their positions (12) (change) and one of them (13) (disappear). He then (14) (come) to the conclusion that they were orbiting Jupiter. In fact, he (15) (discover) three of Jupiter's largest moons, and he (16) (find) a fourth on 13th January. His observations would have far-reaching consequences.

- 4 Complete each sentence using the verbs in brackets. Use a form of *used to* for one verb and *now + present simple or continuous* for the other.**

- 1 Scientists used to believe that the ancestors of whales were extinct carnivores called mesonychids. However, they now think that whales are related to mammals such as hippos, cows and giraffes. (believe, think)
- 2 Some astronomers that there were canals on Mars, but they that this is not the case. (know, think)
- 3 Cigarette manufacturers actually that smoking cigarettes was actually good for your health, but they print health warnings on cigarette packets. (claim, have to)
- 4 Most Chinese workers bicycles to work, but more and more cars. (drive, ride)
- 5 The island of Britain part of the mainland of Europe, but the Channel it from France. (be, divide)
- 6 Most people letters to friends and family, but more and more people e-mail. (write, use)
- 7 Most families at the table and eat meals together, but nowadays family members generally in front of the television. (eat, sit)
- 8 British students grants from their local education authority which paid for their university courses, but that system no longer operates, and students low-interest loans, and work-part time to finance their studies. (take out, receive)

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

5 Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first sentence, using the word in bold. Do not change the word given.

- 1 The match started before we got into the ground.

by

The match *had started by the time we got into the ground*

- 2 By then the soldiers knew that the battle was lost.

they

By then the soldiers

- 3 I arrived at the office and realized my keys were at home.

left

When I

- 4 This wasn't my first Japanese meal, so I knew what to expect.

before

I

- 5 Jane left before I phoned her office.

already

When

- 6 It was my first trip to Romania

before

I

- 7 She couldn't understand the meaning of his letter.

what

She

- 8 Having eaten all their food, they were forced to eat their pack animals.

since

They were

- 9 The injured man seemed to have fallen from the window.

had

It seemed that

- 10 They decided to give him the job before the interview was over.

already

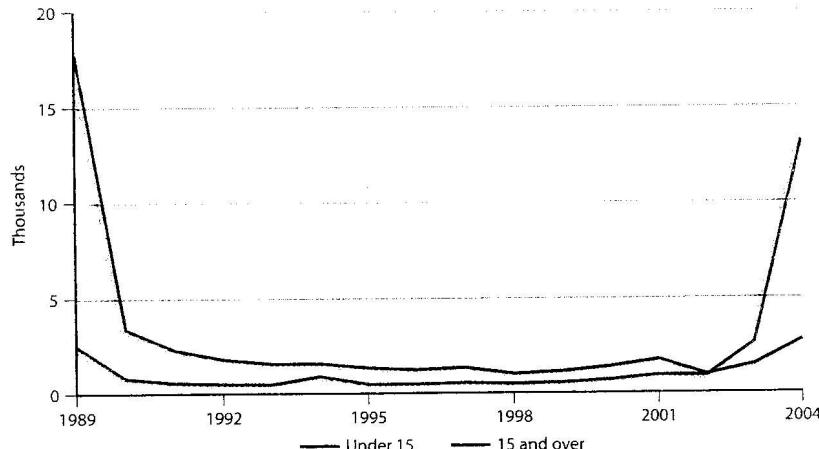
Before

6

GRAMMAR

Practice 2

- 1 Complete the text by writing the present perfect simple, past simple or past perfect form of the verbs in brackets in each space.



Mumps notifications: by age, England & Wales (ONS)

Mumps in the early 21st century

In recent years in the UK the number of cases of the viral disease mumps (1) (rise) dramatically. In 1988, with the introduction of a new vaccine, the number of infections (2) (fall) dramatically, and rates (3) (stay) low until 2003. Since that time, there (4) (be) a rapid increase followed by another slow fall in the number of cases. Since the publication of the above figures, the rate (5) (fall) back again to round about 7,000 cases per year. What exactly (6) (cause) the rise in the first place? Although older adults (7) (not receive) the new MMR vaccination, they (8) (probably have) the disease in childhood, and so (9) (already build up) some immunity. On the other hand, those born between 1983 and 1986, before the new MMR vaccine (10) (start) to take effect, (11) (receive) no exposure to the disease in the community because the vaccine (12) (largely eliminate) it from the vaccinated age group, and so this group of young adults, now in their early 20s, (13) (not acquire) any immunity. To make matters worse, by the end of the century uptake of the MMR vaccine (14) (also begin) to fall, mainly as a result of controversy over its safety. In the 2009 figures it (15) (stand) at around 80%, well below the immunity level of 95% recommended by the World Health Organization.

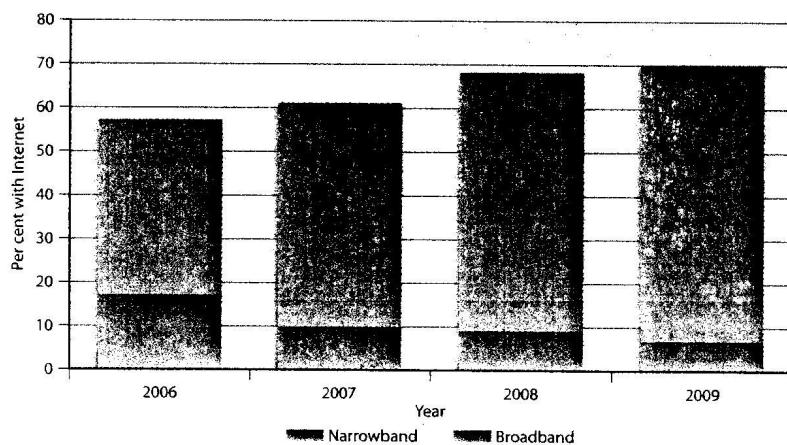
IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

2 Complete the text by writing a phrase from the box in each space.

has grown steadily	had never been online	has almost reached
has also had an effect	has completely changed	has expanded fourfold
has indicated	has shown	have been complaining
have connected	have continued	have increased
have now discovered	have remained popular	have limited

Internet access

As might be expected, the number of UK homes with access to the Internet (1) ... has grown steadily ... over the past twenty years. Latest figures show that numbers (2) over the past four years from 60% of households to around 70%, or 18.3 million households. More than 4 million households (3) to the Internet since 2006. As far as access is concerned, the 16–24-year-old group (4) saturation point, as over 95% have access to the Internet. Although the 65-plus age group has only around 30% access, it (5) the highest increase in use in recent years. The growth in wireless hotspots (6) on the way Internet users go online, and statistics show that this form of access (7) over the past two years. These statistics are hardly surprising when we consider how the Internet (8) the way people work, play and access information. Recently people (9) that they cannot easily buy cheap rail tickets, book air fares or find cheaper car insurance without using the Internet. In a 2008 survey, 70% of the 65-plus age group and around 30% of 55–64-year-olds (10) and further research (11) that those with lower educational qualifications are less likely to own a computer or use the Internet. Interestingly, during the same period despite increased home access to the net, Internet cafés (12) Some older people (13) that the cafés offer a cheaper alternative to net access from home, and many computer users (14) to go there, even though they have home access, because they enjoy the company, or because their employers (15) their net use at work.



7



GRAMMAR

Future time

Will and will not

- For factual predictions, often with a qualifying adverbial:

Prices will increase by 10% over the next year.

Prices will almost certainly increase by 10% over the next year.

Other qualifying adverbials: *definitely, probably, no doubt.*

Be going to

- Generally for personal plans and intentions, or when we can see what is going to happen:

I'm going to take this work home with me.

Look at that egg! It's going to hatch.

- For decisions about the future:

I've decided about next year. I'm going to apply to Imperial College.

- Qualifying adverbials are also common:

There is probably going to be a revolution in this field within ten years.

Will or going to?

- In formal speech and writing *will* for prediction is more common, but *going to* is common in journalistic writing. It can be replaced by *going to* in everyday speech. This is not true for other meanings of *will*:

Prices will rise by up to 5% over the next six months.

As I see it, prices are going to rise by up to 5% over the next six months.

Present simple and continuous

- Use present simple for a fixed event, with no personal choice, and the event seen as a fact:

The next meeting is on March 3rd.

- Use present continuous for a fixed arrangement, one already definitely made:

We're leaving on Saturday. Are you coming with us?

Going to in this example gives the same information:

Are you going to come with us?

Future time clauses

- Use present simple after *as soon as, after, before, by the time, immediately, the moment, until, when*, etc even though there is a future reference:

As soon as we know the results, we'll let you know.

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

- Use present perfect simple instead of present simple to emphasize completion:
When we've completed the experiment, we'll have a break.

Future continuous

- To describe an event or state at a future point:
Within a few years, most countries will be facing the same problems.

Future perfect simple

- To describe what we can say when we look back from a future point:
By the end of the 21st century, temperatures will have reached a dangerous level.

Formal instructions

- Forms of *will* are all used formally to state what must happen, or must be the case:
Students will leave all bags, books, documents, etc outside the examination room.
Staff in this category will have completed safety training.

→ SEE ALSO

Grammar 10: Direct and indirect questions

GRAMMAR 7 FUTURE TIME**1 Underline the most suitable verb form in each sentence. Sometimes more than one form is possible.**

- 1 Thanks very much for your help. I'll let you know/I'm going to let you know/I'm letting you know how the interview goes.
- 2 This time next week while we are all hard at work Helen will lie/will be lying/is lying in the sun on a beach somewhere!
- 3 Despite these promising sales results, we expect that profits will fall/are going to fall/are falling in the long term.
- 4 There will be/is going to be/will have been another meeting next Friday morning. Do you think you'll be able to come?
- 5 I don't think that this problem will simply go away. What are we going to do/will we do/will we be doing about it?
- 6 Something's come up, so we won't be leaving/aren't leaving/won't leave on Saturday after all.
- 7 It won't be easy, but I think we'll finish/we'll be finishing/we're going to finish the project on time.
- 8 I'm sorry you're leaving. We're all going to miss/We'll all miss/We are all missing you.
- 9 By the end of the year, interest rates will probably have risen/are probably rising/will probably rise sharply.
- 10 I'm going to work/I'll be working/I'll work this weekend, so it's not worth arranging anything.

2 Complete each sentence with the future continuous or future perfect form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 Please remember that we (work) will be working in the lab on Tuesday morning. You won't need your laptops as we (put) all the data online. Don't forget that we'll be in the Memorial Building, not in the New Block.
- 2 With the government's plans to be announced next week, the financial sector (soon enter) a new era. On Wednesday the speculation will be over, and the finance minister (make) further changes to the tax system which he hopes will provide shelter from the financial storm. But with the ferocity of the global crisis, and the massive public deficit, it remains to be seen whether these measures will succeed.
- 3 We would like to inform customers that engineers (replace) the damaged section of pipeline, starting at 7.00am on Monday 21st March. This work should be complete by 8.00pm Monday 21st March, and we hope that water supplies (return) by 10.00pm the same evening. During the day we (supply) households with bottled drinking water.
- 4 During the spring the union intends to ask their members to support strike action, though they say they (also talk) to management. A spokesman commented, 'Over the next few weeks, we (visit) our members to explain our position, and by the end of April either we (come) to some agreement with management, or we (start) moving more definitely towards strike action.'

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

3 Complete each sentence with the *will*, present simple or present perfect form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 When we (process) ~~process/have processed~~... your application form, we (let) you know about the date of your interview.
- 2 Before you (leave), I (give) you the address of that hotel I mentioned.
- 3 We (begin) to market this new product only after we (test) it thoroughly in real-life conditions.
- 4 When the plane (take off) and the captain (switch off) the seat belt sign, you can use your laptop.
- 5 As soon as there (be) any news, one of our representatives (contact) you.
- 6 The moment I (have) the chance I (send) you the data you have requested.
- 7 I (meet) you in the cafeteria when the next lecture (finish)
- 8 By the time governments all over the world (come) to an agreement on how to deal with global warming, it (be) too late.
- 9 There (be) a short meeting in Room 33 for all speakers before the afternoon session (begin)
- 10 Don't worry, I (send) you a text message as soon as I (arrive)
..... .

4 Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first sentence, using the word in bold. Do not change the word given.

- 1 Doctors expect artificial organs to be commonplace by the end of the century.
will

Doctors expect that artificial organs will be commonplace by the end of the century.....

- 2 Some experts predict a doubling of car use within twenty years.
have

Some experts predict that

- 3 Experts expect most people to be home workers in twenty years' time.
be

Experts expect that

- 4 The future is unknown.

happen

Nobody knows

- 5 Some people expect future technology to be much cheaper.
lower

Some people expect that the price

- 6 Engineers expect to have completed the tunnel by the end of the year.
that

Engineers expect

- 7 Scientists predict 90% mobile phone use by the end of the decade.
be

Scientists predict that

GRAMMAR 7 FUTURE TIME

- 8** The forecast predicts rain for tomorrow.
it
The forecast says that
- 9** It is hard to predict future diet exactly.
eating
It is hard to predict exactly what
- 10** Space experts predict human colonization of other planets by the end of the century.
colonized
Space experts predict that humans

5 Complete the text by writing a verb from the box in each space.

will be introducing	starts	will have closed	will pass	will be able
won't really be	will cause	is going to make	will end up	will prove
will record	will get	will no longer be	won't come back	passes
	will receive	will confuse	will result	

New toll system to cause chaos say hire firms

According to city car hire firms, the automated toll system which the government (1) will be introducing... on the M36 next year (2) difficulties for car rental companies. When the new system (3) operating, there (4) a chance to pay tolls directly in cash at toll booths, which (5) Under the new system, when the car (6) through the toll barrier, cameras (7) the car registration plate. Motorists (8) to pay automatically by signing up to the Tollpass payment system. Those who are not signed up can pay their toll online or by telephone. All tolls must be paid by 20.00 the following day, and non payment (9) in a fine of up to €150. This system is not a problem for local residents, but it (10) life difficult for customers, such as tourists or business visitors, who are not signed up with Tollpass. It is the driver who is responsible for paying tolls and fines, and car hire firms think that this (11) visitors. 'This system (12) disastrous to tourism,' said Monica Donovan of FirstUp Cars. 'Three quarters of all cars returned to car rental companies at the City Airport (13) through the toll system during their rental period. We think that a lot of visitors (14) not paying and it (15) their fault. They (16) fines through the post, they (17) upset, and they (18) to the city in the future.'

8

GRAMMAR



Time words and phrases

At, in, on

- At, in, on are used with clock time, festivals and definite times:
at 5.12am/midnight at Christmas at the end of the week at present
- In is used with months, years, seasons, parts of the day and future points:
in April in 1906 in spring in the morning in a week in a moment
- On is used with dates, days of the week and expressions with day:
on April 18th on Tuesday on my birthday

Already

- To say that something has happened before now or a time mentioned:
We've already discussed this matter.

Yet, so far

- Not yet means 'not before a certain time'. In British English it is used with perfect tenses. Yet can be placed before or after the verb phrase:
We have not finished it yet. We have not yet finished our report.
- Without not, yet means 'ever' or 'so far':
These are our best results yet.
- Have yet to do/be yet to do means that something has not happened yet:
Scientists have yet to confirm these results. The project is yet to begin.

For, since, ago

- For is used with a period of time:
We've been working on this project for six months.
- Since is used with a point of time and comes before the time reference:
We've been working on this project since January.
- Ago describes the time since an event. It comes after the time reference:
He died ten years ago.

Still

- Still describes a situation that continues to exist:
Scientists are still looking for answers to these questions.

GRAMMAR 8 TIME WORDS AND PHRASES

No longer

- *No longer* means ‘not any more’:
Scientists no longer believe that this is true.

Towards

- *Towards* is used when we need to describe a time more generally. Compare:
At the end of the 1990s, the problem was solved. (exactly then)
Towards the end of the 1990s, the problem was solved. (round about then)

By, until, so far, up to

- *By* means ‘not later than the time mentioned’:
The new laboratory will be finished by the end of the year.
- *Until* is used for something that happens up to a point in time, and then stops:
Helen slept deeply until the alarm clock woke her.
- *So far* means ‘yet’ or ‘until now’:
We've been examining the samples, but so far haven't found any sign of life.
- *Up to* means the same as *until*:
Up to the end of the 1970s computers were large and nobody had one at home.

During, throughout, over

- *During* describes a point in a period of time, or a whole period of time:
The castle was destroyed during the war. (point in a period)
Electricity consumption fluctuates during the day. (whole period)
- *Throughout* emphasizes ‘from the beginning to the end’:
Explosions continued throughout the night. (all the time)
- *Over* describes what has happened in a period of time:
Over the past five years, the situation has got worse.
- *Over* can also mean ‘more than’:
We've been waiting here for over half an hour.

After, afterwards, later, before

- *After* is a preposition and needs an object. *Afterwards* and *later* are adverbials meaning *after that*, and do not need an object. *Before* and *later* can be used to describe times:
After an encouraging start, the project ran into difficulties.
He wrote a report, but afterwards/later/after a while changed his conclusions.
An hour later disaster struck, as it had two years before.

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

On time, in time

- *On time* means ‘at the moment which was arranged’. The opposite is *late*:
The new bridge was completed exactly on time.
- *In time* is the opposite of *too late*:
The paramedics did not arrive in time to save the man’s life. They were too late.

At last, last, finally, in the end, at the end

- *At last* describes the moment when something you have been waiting for happens:
At last you are here! I’ve been waiting for so long to see you!
- *Last* describes the last time an action occurred.
It’s ages since I last saw you/I saw you last.
- *Finally* introduces something that happened after a long time:
The train finally arrived more than two hours late.
It also begins a sentence, to describe the last in a series of events or process, or introduces the last thing you want to say:
Finally, the samples are sealed in plastic and stored at 5°C.
Finally, the article argues that the cost of such a scheme need not be excessive.

Nowadays, these days

- Both are used to describe general present time:
Nowadays more and more people are buying goods online.
Most people these days are aware of the need to save energy.

Once, one day, at once

- *Once* refers to a past event, or something which used to exist:
People once believed that the Sun circled the Earth.
- *Once* can also mean ‘as soon as’. *At once* means ‘immediately’:
Once the micro-processor had been developed, cheap computers soon followed.
You must start at once! It’s very important.

Formerly, previously

- *Formerly* or *previously* describe a past situation.
The building was formerly used as an aircraft factory.

GRAMMAR 8 TIME WORDS AND PHRASES**1 Underline the most suitable verb form in each sentence.**

- 1 The waterproof coat, or Mackintosh, was invented *since 200 years/before 200 years/200 years ago*.
- 2 Nuclear physics as a science began *by/towards/throughout* the end of the nineteenth century.
- 3 Even in the best organized places, trains don't always run exactly *in time/at once/on time*.
- 4 Unfortunately, we haven't *already/yet/still* obtained any useful results.
- 5 Halley's comet won't be visible from the Earth *until/up to/yet* it returns in 2061.
- 6 My ambition is to *one day/once/so far* stand on the Moon and look at the Earth.
- 7 The volcano hasn't erupted seriously *for/until/since* 1944.
- 8 The team hopes to complete the project *up to/by/since* the end of the year.
- 9 *Nowadays/Throughout/Until* the summer there were numerous forest fires.
- 10 It is more than 10,000 years since the end of the *last/later/after* Ice Age.

2 Complete each short text by selecting from the words in brackets at the end.

Not all words will be used.

Theories of evolution**Text 1**

(1) the middle of the nineteenth century, various theories of evolution had appeared, including that of Darwin, but evolution was not fully understood until (2) , when development in genetics (3) the 1950s led to the decoding of the human genome (4) the beginning of the 21st century.
(at, during, finally, later, on, since, up to, yet, in)

Text 2

The science of genetics was (5) based on assumptions about what was inherited, (6) the plant-breeding experiments of Gregor Mendel, an Austrian monk and scientist. (7) 1865 he published an important paper, widely known only (8) his death, which used mathematics to describe laws of genetic inheritance.
(after, at, at last, formerly, in, nowadays, on, throughout, until)

Text 3

(9) April 25th 1953 James Watson and Francis Crick published an article in *Nature* proposing a structure for DNA, the molecule which contains genetic information. This work was based on X-ray data produced the year (10) by Rosalind Franklin. Nine years (11) , with another colleague, Maurice Wilkins, they received the Nobel prize, and (12) 1968 Watson wrote the best-selling book, *The Double Helix*, about the discovery.
(after, at, in, later, on, over, so far, before)

Text 4

The Human Genome Project enabled scientists to (13) understand our genetic make-up. The project started (14) 1990 and lasted (15) more than 16 years. (16) 2000 an outline of the way the 20–25,000 human genes that make up human DNA had been traced, and the detailed sequence was published three years (17) that. (18) then, the research has helped to identify more than 30 diseased genes, responsible for human illnesses. *(after, already, by, finally, for, in, later, since, until)*

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

3 Read the text and decide which option (A, B, C or D) best fits each space.

Blood transfusion

Experiments in blood transfusion were carried out in France (1) the 17th century though Australian native people are said to have practised blood transfusion for thousands of years. (2) 15th June 1667 a French doctor, Jean-Baptiste Denys, successfully transfused a boy with the blood of a lamb, and (3) a short period performed other transfusions. However, several of his patients died and the practice was (4) banned, both in France and in other countries. (5) the 19th century, blood transfusions became common, but (6) that time doctors did not understand that human blood is divided into different groups. It was (7) Karl Landsteiner discovered this (8) 1901 that transfusions became safe. (9) this point, transfusions were still carried out from patient to patient. (10) the end of the same decade, it became possible to store blood using refrigeration and by adding anticoagulants, and (11) the First World War, blood stored in blood banks was used for the first time. Most countries now have national blood bank systems and receiving blood is (12) a dangerous or unusual event. Technical advances (13) the past century mean that blood can (14) be stored (15) about six weeks, and plasma, the liquid component of blood, (16) a year.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1 A until | B since | C in | D already |
| 2 A On | B In | C At | D The |
| 3 A since | B after | C over | D from |
| 4 A after | B these days | C previously | D later |
| 5 A By | B In time | C Until | D During |
| 6 A in | B at | C on | D for |
| 7 A already | B not until | C during | D since |
| 8 A in | B at | C on | D over |
| 9 A At | B In | C Since | D On |
| 10 A Afterwards | B Finally | C Formerly | D By |
| 11 A at | B during | C since | D already |
| 12 A so far | B already | C no longer | D at last |
| 13 A in | B over | C until | D after |
| 14 A yet | B now | C still | D finally |
| 15 A since | B during | C for | D by |
| 16 A for up to | B still | C during | D not until |

GRAMMAR 8 TIME WORDS AND PHRASES

4 Complete the text by writing a suitable word in each space.

Traffic lights

Traffic lights only became necessary (1) in the 19th century, when traffic began to increase. A traffic signal invented by J P Knight, a railway signalling engineer, was installed outside the Houses of Parliament in London as long (2) as 1868. It looked like a railway signal of the time but a few weeks (3) it blew up, killing a policeman, and signals of this type were no (4) used. The modern traffic light is an American invention, the first red and green lights, worked by a policeman, being set up in Cleveland (5) 1914 followed a few years (6) by three-colour lights in New York. These new lights didn't arrive in Britain (7) 1925. A year (8) this, the first automatic lights were installed at a road junction in Wolverhampton, where they remained in use (9) the next 42 years. Lights of this type had (10) appeared in Houston in the USA. (11) the beginning of the 1930s, the first vehicle-activated lights were set up in London. (12) these early days, traffic light design has developed to cater for different types of road user.

5 Complete the text by writing a suitable word in each space. In some cases there is more than one answer.

An outline history of banking

The first banks were probably established (1) around five thousand years (2) , (3) a time when produce such as grain rather than money would have been lent out. Banking (4) became common (5) the Roman period. (6) the Roman Empire in the west had fallen, banking was first restricted by Christian beliefs, and then abandoned, not reappearing (7) the Middle Ages. (8) that period, the increase in international trade led to a kind of banking linked to trade fairs. (9) the early 14th century, for example, Italian banks had branches all over Europe. The oldest bank (10) operating today is the Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena, which was founded (11) 1472. This type of bank was in effect a cross between a pawnbroker and a charity to help the poor, a common type of institution (12) that time. It has been operating ever (13) and today is a bank with 3,000 branches. Modern finance and banking originated in London and Amsterdam (14) the 17th century, (15) leading to the establishment (16) 1694 of the Bank of England to act as banker for the British government. (17) the Bank plays a major role in managing the UK economy.

9

GRAMMAR

Practice 3

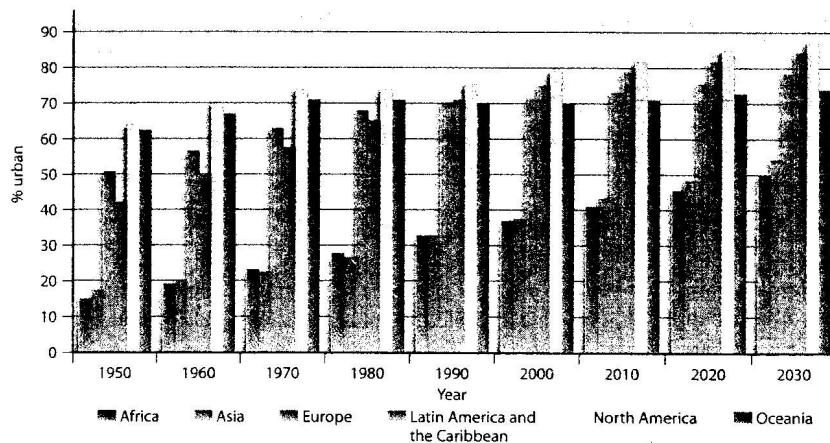
1 Complete the text by writing a form of a verb from the box in each space.

will probably rise	will have increased	will be	will be living
will have sprung up	will be struggling	will not have been able	
will be finding	will simply not have	will be facing	will have
will have improved	will have provided	will have to address	

Growth in urban population

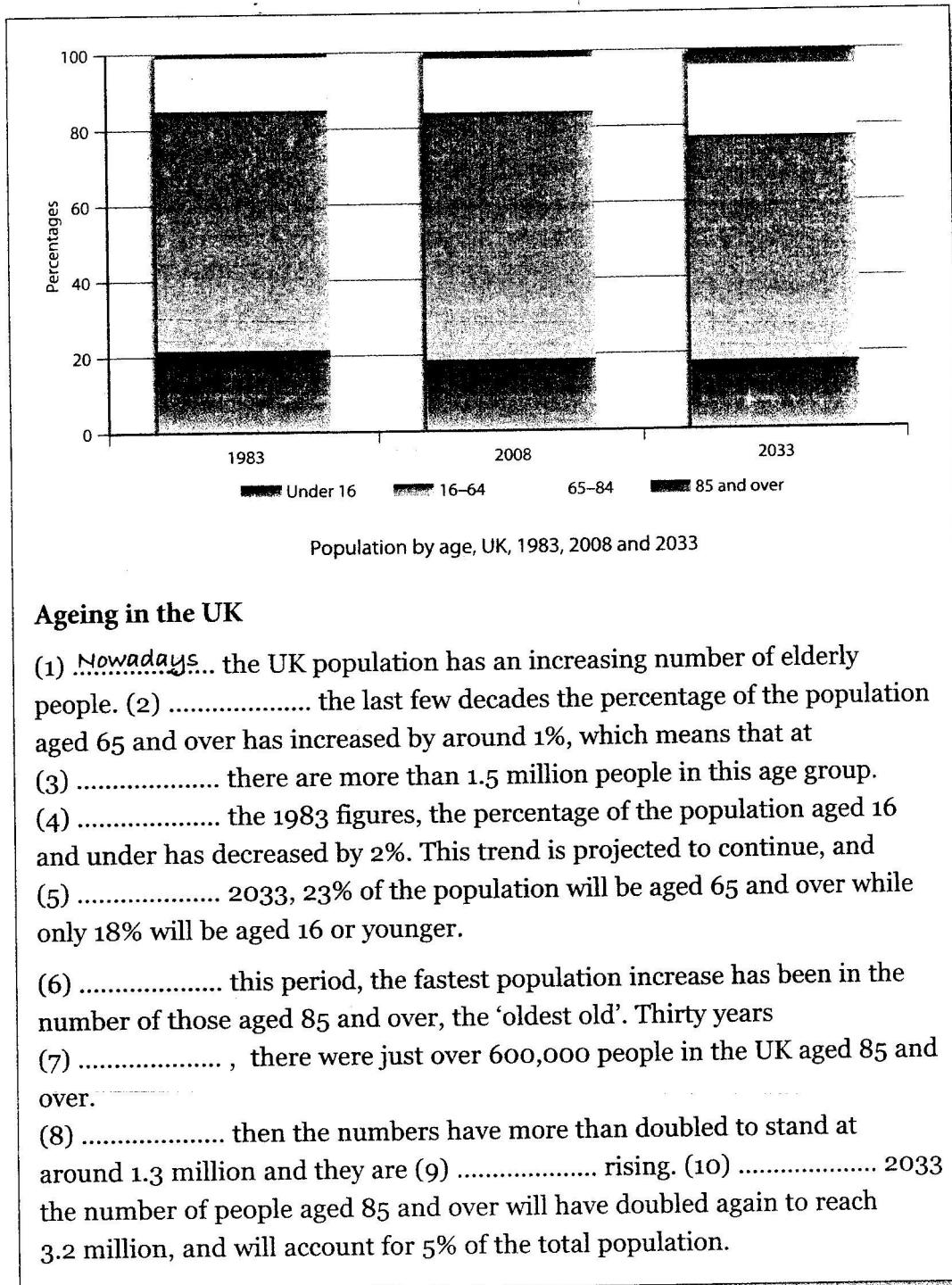
Over the next half century, the world's population (1) to around 9 billion. World population (2) by nearly 50% compared to the population at the turn of the millennium, and according to a report by the UN agency the United Nations Population Fund, the future for most people in the world (3) urban. By 2030 more than 5 billion people (4) in towns and cities, and large urban populations (5) in Africa and Asia. Most of these people (6) to find work and raise families in smaller towns and cities in less-developed regions which (7) to keep pace with expansion. Such towns (8) it difficult to cope with change, and (9) the necessary resources. Most of the inhabitants of these new cities (10) a life of poverty. In 2000 the international community recognized that it (11) the needs of the growing number of poor people living in cities. The target they set then was an ambitious one. The expectation is that by 2020 the lives of at least 100 million people (12) significantly. Governments (13) better housing, alongside improved access to basic social and health care. However, nobody is sure what impact the global recession (14) on these plans, and whether the 2020 target is now achievable.

Predicted growth in urban population



GRAMMAR 9 PRACTICE 3

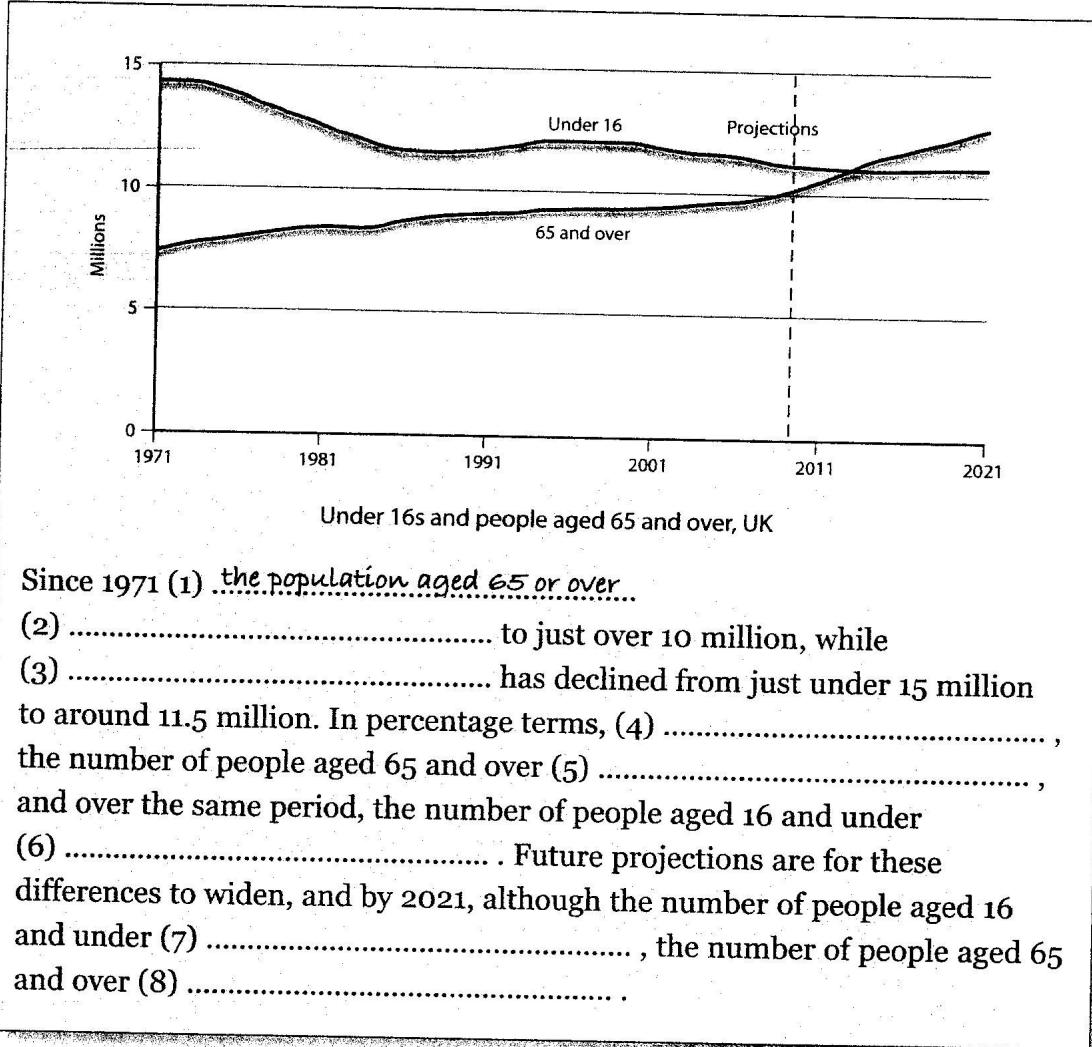
- 2 Complete the text by writing a suitable word in each space. More than one answer may be possible.



IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

3 Study the table and use the information to complete the text, using the phrases in the box.

the population aged 65 and over between 1971 and the present
fell by about 20% has increased from around 7.5 million rose by about 30%
the population aged 16 and under will have risen to around 13 million
will stand at about the same figure



10

GRAMMAR

Direct and indirect questions

Direct questions

- Questions begin either with question words, or with an auxiliary verb. Note the positions of adverbs:

Present simple

How (exactly) does it work? Do they live here?

Present continuous

What is happening? Are they (really) leaving?

Past simple

What did they find? Did it make any difference?

Past continuous

What was he trying to do? Were you living there?

Present perfect simple

Have you (ever) been there? Has it started?

Present perfect continuous

What have you been doing? Has he been waiting long?

Past perfect simple

What had they discovered? Had they left?

Past perfect continuous

What had he been doing? Had you been waiting?

Indirect or reported questions

- Questions can be introduced by reporting verbs. In this case there is no question form, or question mark. They are called 'indirect' or 'reported' questions. When introduced by a past tense verb, reported questions follow tense rules for reported speech:

Direct question

'What time is it?'

Indirect question

I wonder what time it is.

- Questions can also be introduced by expressions formed from *it + be + adjective* or *it + be + adjective + infinitive*:

Direct question

'Who is going to take over from Jan?'

Indirect question

It's not clear who is going to take over from Jan.

It's hard to decide who is going to take over from Jan.

- Questions can be introduced by other direct questions (with a question mark):

What size is it?

Where are we going?

Do you know what size it is?

Could you tell me where we are going?

IELTS LANGUAGE PRACTICE

Noun clauses

- Noun clauses beginning *who*, *what*, *how*, *why*, etc often follow verbs such as: *describe*, *know*, *understand*, *realize*, *explain*, *reveal*, *wonder*, *show* and phrases such as:

it is uncertain/doubtful/not clear

These are not questions and so are not followed by question forms.

It is important to describe exactly how this reaction takes place:

Scientists now understand how the birds navigate over long distances.

The table shows how many 16 to 18 year-olds remain in education.

The diagram explains what happens under these conditions.

- In writing it may be clearer to use a direct question:

But how do the birds navigate over long distances? Scientists now think they understand this.

Subject and object questions

- Object questions with *what* and *who* generally use an auxiliary and inversion:

These organisms live on carbon dioxide.

What do these organisms live on?

- Subject questions do not use an auxiliary or inversion:

Strong light kills them.

What kills them?

Who discovered this effect?

What was the result?

→ SEE ALSO

Grammar 1: Present time

Grammar 2: Past time

Grammar 4: Present perfect

Grammar 5: Past perfect, used to

Grammar 7: Future time