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y, gender

demonstratives

1 present and future verbs

1 Which expression(s) can normally end the sentence correctly?

House prices go up ...

- A. ... every year.
- B. ... again.
- C. ... by 2% this year.
- D. ... when there are not enough new houses.

2 Right R or wrong W?

- A. Here **comes** our train.
- B. Here **is coming** our train.

3 Which of these is more usual: A or B?

- A. **It says** in the instructions that you need two 9-volt batteries.
- B. **It's saying** in the instructions that you need two 9-volt batteries.

4 Which question is the more likely response: A or B?

Jake's just phoned in to say he's ill.

- A. ~ So **who's going to teach** his class this afternoon?
- B. ~ So **who's teaching** his class this afternoon?

5 Which sounds more polite: A or B?

- A. **I hope** you can help me.
- B. **I'm hoping** you can help me.

6 Which is more normal: A or B?

- A. **I promise** never to smoke again.
- B. **I'm promising** never to smoke again.

7 Which is the best way to end the sentence: A, B or C?

I'm seeing my boss tomorrow and ...

- A. ... **I'm complaining** about this year's pay rise.
- B. ... **I'm going to complain** about this year's pay rise.
- C. ... **I will complain** about this year's pay rise.

8 Right or wrong?

- A. **It's snowing** before long.
- B. **It's going to snow** before long.
- C. **It'll be snowing** before long.

9 Right or wrong?

- A. **You're going to take** that medicine, whether you like it or not!
- B. **You're taking** that medicine, whether you like it or not!

Swan, M. & D. Baker. 2008. GrammarScan. OUP.
pp. 67-72

10 Which of these sports commentaries uses the present tense correctly: A, B or both?

- A. 'Smith passes to Devaney, Harris intercepts, Harris passes back to Simms and Simms shoots!'
- B. 'Oxford are pulling ahead of Cambridge. They're rowing steadily. Cambridge are looking a bit disorganised.'

11 Right or wrong?

- A. Don't phone them now - they're having dinner.
- B. Don't phone them now - they'll be having dinner.

12 Which is the best way to end the sentence: A, B or C?
This time tomorrow ...

- A. ... I'm lying on the beach.
- B. ... I'll lie on the beach.
- C. ... I'll be lying on the beach.

13 Which expression(s) can end the sentence correctly?
The builders say they will have finished the roof ...

- A. ... by Tuesday.
- B. ... by the end of the week.
- C. ... as soon as they can.
- D. ... without any more delays.

2 past and perfect verbs

1 Which expression(s) can end the sentence correctly?
She realised ...

- A. ... she had not locked the front door.
- B. ... she hadn't locked the front door.
- C. ... she'd not locked the front door.

2 Right or wrong?

- A. When I was a child, we made our own amusements.
- B. When I was a child, we played outside every day.
- C. At the time when it happened, I was travelling to New York a lot.

3 Which of these sentences is/are correct?

- A. I lived in London for three years while I was a student.
- B. When I got home, water was coming through the ceiling.
- C. It happened while I stayed with my parents last weekend.

4 Which of these questions is/are correct (in British English)?

- A. Are you finished yet?
- B. Have you finished yet?
- C. Did you finish yet?

5 Look at these questions:

- i. How long are you here for?
- ii. How long were you here for?
- iii. How long have you been here for?

Which of these statements is true: A, B or C?

- A. They all mean the same.
- B. Two of them mean the same.
- C. They all mean something different.

6 Right or wrong?

- A. How long are you studying English?
- B. How long have you been studying English?

7 Which of these structures is/are normally correct?

- A. I've met her before she started working here.
- B. I'm sure we've met before.
- C. I haven't been abroad recently.
- D. I've bought a new car recently.
- E. She's never said 'sorry' in her life.
- F. I never said 'sorry' when I had the chance.

8 Right or wrong?

- A. When I was a child, we always went swimming on Saturdays in the summer.
- B. Her mother was always arranging little surprise picnics and outings.

9 Is this sentence right or wrong? If it's wrong, correct it.

Yesterday's maths exam was very hard, but I think we've studied enough to pass it.

10 Right or wrong?

- A. It was raining all day. I'm tired of it!
- B. It's rained all day. I'm tired of it!
- C. It's been raining all day. I'm tired of it!

11 Which of the replies can be used correctly?

You look hot.

- A. ~ Yes, I ran here.
- B. ~ Yes, I've run.
- C. ~ Yes, I've been running.

12 Which of the replies can be used correctly?

You look tired.

- A. ~ I woke up all night.
- B. ~ I've woken up all night.
- C. ~ I've been waking up all night.

13 Which sentence(s) can follow this one?

I need to change my TV.

- A. It **didn't** work very well recently.
- B. It **hasn't** worked very well recently.
- C. It **hasn't** been working very well recently.

14 Right or wrong?

- A. That man **has been standing** at the bus stop all day.
- B. For 900 years the castle **has stood** on the hill above the village.

15 Which sentence(s) can follow this one?

I've been planting rose bushes all morning.

- A. Look at all the bushes I **was planting!**
- B. Look at all the bushes I've **planted!**
- C. Look at all the bushes I've **been planting!**

16 Which expression(s) can end the sentence correctly?

It's the fifth time ...

- A. ... you **ask** the same question.
- B. ... you **are asking** the same question.
- C. ... you **asked** the same question.
- D. ... you've **asked** the same question.

17 Which expression(s) can end the sentence correctly?

It's been raining ...

- A. ... for the last few days.
- B. ... since last week.
- C. ... in September.
- D. ... from seven in the morning till lunchtime.
- E. ... recently.
- F. ... this week.
- G. ... last week.

18 Right or wrong?

- A. My legs were stiff because I **had been standing** still for a long time.
- B. The tree that blew down **had stood** there for 300 years.

3 auxiliary verbs

1 Right R or wrong W?

I felt nervous because ...

- A. ... I was soon **going to** leave home for the first time.
- B. ... I was soon **to** leave home for the first time.

2 What does this sentence mean?

I was to have started work last week.

- A. I was supposed to start work before last week.
- B. I was supposed to start work last week, but I didn't.

3 Which verb form(s) can complete the sentence correctly?

If we _____ by lunchtime, we had better hurry.

- A. get there
- B. will get there
- C. would get there
- D. are to get there

4 Which of these would you see on a medicine bottle?

- A. Take three times a day after meals.
- B. To take three times a day after meals.
- C. To be taken three times a day after meals.

5 I'm ready to see Mr Smith now. ...

Which of these can follow the sentence above?

- A. ... Have him come in, please.
- B. ... Have him coming in, please.
- C. ... Have him to come in, please.
- D. ... Make him come in, please.

6 Are these replies right or wrong (in British English)?

Close the door!

- A. ~ I have.
- B. ~ I've done.
- C. ~ I have done.
- D. ~ I have closed it.

7 Which expression(s) can complete the sentence correctly?

He _____ all through the meeting.

- A. made us laugh
- B. made us laughing
- C. had us laugh
- D. had us laughing

8 Is this sentence right or wrong? If it's wrong, correct it.

I had a very strange thing happen to me when I was fourteen.

9 What does this sentence mean?

- A. I won't ask you to tell me what to do.
- B. I won't let you tell me what to do.