

Unit 1

Review of tenses



Grammar in Context

Theme: Showbiz

Words by Theme



Read the following magazine article and answer the questions.

IMMENSE¹ PRESSURE IN SHOWBIZ² By James Mount

Many of us **have imagined** ourselves becoming a pop idol³ who **gets** unconditional love and support from fans. But such approval⁴ **is** a double-edged sword—it always **comes** with malicious attacks⁵.

Anxiety among Celebrities⁶

Celebrities **are** constantly in the spotlight⁷, but fame **is** both a blessing and a restriction.

① Many of them **have suffered from** panic attacks, depression or anxiety. They **have received** all kinds of criticisms about their appearances and talents since their debuts⁸. As the digital media **will affect** the entertainment industry even more, the situation **is going to get** worse.

The Stress of Being a Celebrity

Social media **has allowed** fans and paparazzi⁹

to know every single move of celebrities. Public figures¹⁰ **need** to appear perfect at all times.

② Many of them **are disintegrating** in self-doubt. They **are struggling** to deal with the unrealistic expectations¹¹ the public have for them. Suffering an identity crisis, some of them **took** career breaks¹². In extreme cases, they **left** the industry.

Recently, the local boy band Terror **has led** a Canto-pop comeback. David, one of the most popular members of the group, **has had** fans lingering outside his apartment. ③ He **passed out** from exhaustion while he **was attending a public event.** In his latest song, he **has voiced** his struggles with depression. He once **said** in an interview, '④ I **hope** the public **will respect** our **privacy.** I **believe** my fans **will understand** that sometimes I want to be left alone.'

What are the tenses of the verbs in sentences ① – ④?

	Simple present	Present continuous	Present perfect	Simple past	Past continuous	Simple future
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②	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
③	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
④	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



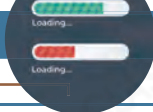
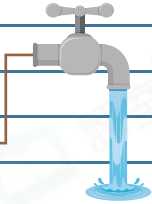
PART 1A The simple present tense

We use the simple present tense to talk about the following situations. (Refer to Book 1 Unit 9 for detailed explanation of the simple present tense.)

Situations	Examples
Facts or general truths	Leaves <i>fall</i> in winter.
Habits	I never <i>hit</i> the gym. I <i>work out</i> at home.
States of now	The UK <i>is not</i> a member state of the European Union.
Feelings or opinions	<i>Do you believe in me?</i> I <i>love</i> you.
Timetables or schedules	Our meeting <i>starts</i> in ten minutes.

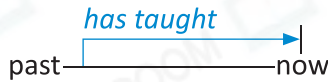
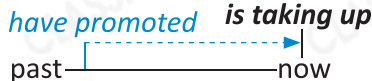


PART 1B The present continuous tense

We use the present continuous tense to talk about the following situations. (Refer to Book 1 Unit 9 for detailed explanation of the present continuous tense.)

Situations	Examples
Ongoing actions	Oops! The web page <i>is still loading</i> . 
Temporary situations	<i>I'm waiting</i> for you at the entrance right now .
Changing situations or trends	More and more people <i>are going</i> vegan these days .
Picture or video descriptions	<i>Is the man pranking</i> his wife in the video ? He <i>is bold</i> !
Annoying habits	You <i>are always leaving</i> the tap on. 
Future plans or arrangements	<i>Are you studying</i> in Australia next year ?

PART 1C The present perfect tense

We use the present perfect tense to talk about the following situations. (Refer to Book 1 Unit 11 for detailed explanation of the present perfect tense.)

Situations	Examples
Past actions that continue up to the present	Mrs Lee <i>has taught</i> in our school for 30 years . 
Recently completed actions with an effect on the present	A: <i>Have you promoted</i> Eva? B: Yes, she is taking up more duties. 
Completed actions without exact finish time	<i>I have experienced</i> panic attacks before . 
Past experiences up to the present	A: <i>Have you ever heard</i> about the metaverse? B: Yes, <i>I have</i> . But <i>I've never explored</i> it further. 

More to take away

metaverse (n.) = an imaginary area without limits where you can meet people in virtual reality

Review of tenses

4. Dave and Tina _____ to each other since their quarrel last month.
5. At that time, he always _____ early to visit his mother, who _____ in hospital.
6. _____ tough times those years? He seldom _____ with us then.
7. Sue _____ the steak on the frying pan when she _____ the sizzling sound.
8. While the victim _____ the transaction code, the hackers _____ it.



Exercise 2.2

Complete the article using the present perfect, simple past or past continuous tense.

Albert Lui, an all-round artist in his 20s, (1) _____ began _____ his career in the entertainment industry in 20XX. Since then, he (2) _____ a versatile career. He sings, acts and hosts game shows. Last summer, Albert (3) _____ his first-ever film *The Chilli Comedy*. In an interview, he (4) _____ his valuable experience of working with some veteran actors. He (5) _____ his gratitude to them, 'I feel really thankful that they (6) _____ me a lot. For instance, they (7) _____ me to use my imagination while I (8) _____ well.'

The director (9) _____ to complete the shooting in nine months. The production company (10) _____ the release date of the film yet ...

- advise
- begin
- develop
- express
- plan
- recall
- shoot
- teach
- not act
- not confirm

PART 3A The simple future tense

We use the simple future tense to talk about the following situations. (Refer to Book 1 Unit 12 for detailed explanation of the future forms.)

Situations	Examples
Decisions or promises made at the moment of speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>I will pay by credit card, thanks.</i> ▪ <i>I won't be late anymore, no worries.</i>
Things that are likely to happen in the future	<i>Where will we meet for lunch?</i>
Offers	<i>I'll take you home.</i>

Reminder

We can also use *shall* with *I* or *we* to make offers or suggestions.

Offers

Mum, shall I carry the groceries for you?

Suggestions

Shall we throw a farewell party for Alina?



PART 3B *be going to*

We use *be going to* to talk about the following situations.

Situations	Examples
Intended or planned future actions	<i>I'm going to join.</i> (a plan made earlier) Compare: <i>I will join.</i> (a decision made at the time of speaking)
Actions that are certain to happen very soon based on what we know	<i>The vase is going to break. The cat keeps pushing it to the edge of the desk.</i>



Exercise 3.1

Fill in the blanks using *will / shall / be going to* and the given verbs.

- I just found that we have no eggs. I will get (get) some from the supermarket.
- ' (we / take) a five-minute break before we move on?' suggested Mr Brown.
- Julia (fly) to Europe in July. She has bought an air ticket.
- Tracy announced, 'Victor proposed to me last month. I (get) married next year!'
- Please don't be mad. I (not do) that again.
- Jane and Claire (not attend) the ball. They have not received any invitations.
- I believe it (be) a sunny day tomorrow. Let's hope for the best.
- ' (we / fix) the time now? (we / meet) at 10 am?' said the secretary.
- Dad said, 'It's late at night. It's too dangerous to go out now. I (go) with you.'
- I've made a list. These are what we (do) during our vacation in Spain.



Exercise 3.2

Victoria and May are chatting online. Insert the missing words. Do not use short forms.

V May, I (1) go shopping tomorrow. Are you joining me?

Sure! (2) we go to Sis-tar Boutique again? I've regretted for days not buying that trench coat. I (3) buy it this time. M

V What's the hurry? It's so hot. You (4) not wear it anytime soon. Ah! I (5) going to buy a new pair of sneakers. I (6) just forgotten about it.

You (7) going to believe me, but it is urgently needed, not for myself though. It (8) definitely look too mature on me. Tomorrow is Mother's Day! M

V Oops ... It (9) cross my mind!

The coat (10) my gift to Mum. M

1. will

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

Grammar Wrap-up

Lillian is reading a short biography. Complete the biography using the given phrases and the correct form of the given verbs. Write the verbs and the letters (A–J) in the spaces provided.

GRAHAM NORTON — a Freewheeling Comedian

For over 15 years since its first episode, *The Graham Norton Show* (1) _____ has built _____ (build) .

Though the host is known to be hilarious, few people (2) _____ (know) .

Graham William Walker (stage name Graham Norton) (3) _____ (grow up) . At university, he had a breakdown and dropped out. A few years later, he (4) _____ (run off) . This marked the beginning of the change in him.

Although Norton first enjoyed fame after starring in the sitcom *Father Ted*, it (5) _____ (be) . Luckily, the manager of the TV station discovered his talent for comedy while he (6) _____ (perform) . He was given his own show the following year.

Celebrities like to be on his show as they can be sure that the interviews (7) _____ (not be) . Norton has also hosted *Eurovision*, a singing contest across Europe, a few times. Some of his best jokes (8) _____ (come) .

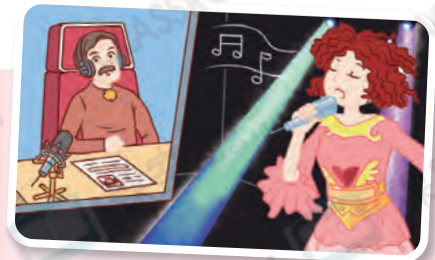
As a writer, Norton (9) _____ (write) . His latest novel is *Home Stretch*. These days, he (10) _____ (not star) ...

A. six books so far	F. a loyal fanbase
B. his only hit as an actor	G. to London and enrolled in a drama school
C. in a small rural town in Ireland	H. in TV series but is still hosting many shows
D. boring, though they never know what questions he is going to ask	I. from his playful and intelligent comments on the contestants
E. on a talk show as a fill-in	J. anything about the comedian, who has given them so many laughs

Brain Breaks

Some of Norton's comments on the contestants:

- 'His song is called "Lie to Me". OK. I think you're going to win.'
- 'The band's trademark is the headphones they're wearing. Not sure what they're listening to, but it's hopefully not this.'



Grammar in Pre-DSE Text Type

Theme: Showbiz

You are writing an album review for the school Music Club. Complete the review using the correct form of the given verbs.

be be more new songs—come differ not leave not like listen
still—hesitate need remember reunite search show work

Words by Theme



www.hkss.edu.hk/music-club/blog

Review of Rock till the End's Latest Album

10 November 20XX

Posted at 20:48

125 comments



Background

Rock till the End (1) _____ are reuniting _____ after a five-year break! The English rock band¹, formed in Manchester in the early 2010s, (2) _____ once a big hit². After the release of their third album *A Big Ego*, Ian York, the band leader, announced that the band (3) _____ for a new path and that they (4) _____ time to get around their creative bottleneck. Last week, the band awakened the world with *Releasing Anger*, their first album in five years. The main track 'Made Gold' has amassed over 500,000 views on Youtube so far. (5) _____ in these months?

Strengths

'Made Gold' (6) _____ from the band's past songs in styles and themes. Since their formation, the band (7) _____ proud of the propulsive rhythm of their songs. This time, the tune is groovy. I couldn't help humming³ along while I (8) _____ to it for the first time. It is also so catchy⁴ that it just (9) _____ my head. I (10) _____ all of it after listening a few times.

Weaknesses

I believe die-hard⁵ fans (11) _____ this song. The theme is a bit hollow, and the trademark originality is gone.

Recommendations

The band's effort and willingness to change really (12) _____ in this new song. Evidently, these musicians⁶ (13) _____ hard while taking their long break. If you (14) _____ over whether to support their comeback⁷ or not, why don't you put on your earphones and give the band a chance?



More to take away

bottleneck (n.) = a problem that delays progress

Different tenses should be used for events at different times.

- I **have** just **left** my credit card at a restaurant. I **am calling** the bank to report this. (present perfect tense and present continuous tense)
- Mr Cheng **didn't attend** the opening ceremony, but he **is attending** the closing ceremony. (simple past tense and present continuous tense)
- The branch manager **is going to resign**. Nothing **will stop** him from leaving. (*be going to* and simple future tense)

Version 1

Chantel is writing a script for a TV show audition. Read the script and pay attention to the underlined parts.

I am a big fan of your show *Shine with Your Mic*. Knowing that **(1) this famous show will be on air this year**, I look forward to learning from the professional mentors and judges to improve my singing skills.

(2) I started singing early. My favourite song back then was the theme song of a drama of your TV station. **(3) I sang it in the shower**. **(4) Singing is my number one priority**. Also, **(5) I experiment with my voice and try singing songs of different genres**. However, **(6) my hands-on experience is limited**. There are technical problems that I cannot overcome by myself.

(7) Throughout the years, contestants have not stopped pursuing their dreams despite the criticisms from the panel of judges. Training with a vocal coach enables them to identify their weaknesses more easily. **(8) I believe that the process is rewarding, even for the losers**. For example, **(9) they have earned**

friendships and gained confidence. **(10) I have decided to build a career in the entertainment industry in a few years**. I do not know where this decision will lead me, but I believe that following my passion is the best direction.



Version 2

Rewrite the underlined parts in Version 1 based on the instructions.

I am a big fan of your show *Shine with Your Mic!*. Knowing that **(1)** this famous show is going to be on air this year (... *be going to* ...), I look forward to learning from the professional mentors and judges to improve my singing skills.

(2) _____

(... *since—I—be—four*) My favourite song back then was the theme song of a drama of your TV station. **(3)** _____ (... *while—I—take...*)

(4) _____ (... *ever since*)

Also, **(5)** _____
 _____ (... *at a singing school in 2020*).

However, **(6)** _____
 _____ (... *so far*). There are technical problems that I cannot overcome by myself.

(7) _____

(*Every year* ...) Training with a vocal coach enables them to identify their weaknesses more easily. **(8)** _____

_____ (simple future tense)

For example, **(9)** _____
 _____ (... *be going to* ...).

(10) _____

(present continuous tense) I do not know where this decision will lead me, but I believe that following my passion is the best direction.

