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Basics. Present Perfect Simple vs. Continuous

Medium | B1 | Intermediate | Present tense | Questions | Sentence | Verb | Verb tense | Perfect tense | Progressive tense | Simple tense

1. Vlad the Vampire is writing his resume and wants to highlight his extensive, centuries-long experience. Select ALL the grammatically correct ways he can express his history.

Select all that apply.

A) I have worked in the night shift industry for 400 years.
B) I have been working in the night shift industry for 400 years.
C) I have been owning this beautiful Gothic castle since 1892.
D) I am working in the night shift industry for 400 years.

2. Fill in the blanks to describe the dog's messy return from the park by dragging the correct words.

Look at Buster! He is covered in mud because he _____ holes in the garden again. He _____ three pairs of my shoes this month alone!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

A) has been digging
B) has dug
C) digs

Blank 2

A) has ruined
B) has been ruining
C) ruins

3. Select the best option to complete the confused roommate's question.

Why are your clothes covered in mud? _____ in the garden again?

Select one.

A) Have you dug
B) Have you been digging
C) Did you dig
D) Are you digging

4. Complete the student's confession to their study buddy by choosing the correct options for each gap.

"I _____ to write this history essay since 9 AM, but I _____ two sentences because my cat keeps sitting on my keyboard."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

A) have been trying
B) have tried
C) try

Blank 2

A) have only written
B) have only been writing
C) only write

5. Complete the detective's messy stakeout notes by dragging the correct verb forms into the gaps.

We _____ about the secret hideout for three weeks. The suspect _____ TV in his living room for the past two hours without moving.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** have known
- **B)** have been knowing
- **C)** knew

Blank 2

- **A)** has been watching
- **B)** has watched
- **C)** is watching

6. Help our oblivious romantic hero finally confess his feelings! Select ALL the grammatically correct statements he could make to his true love.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** I have loved you since the day we met!
- **B)** I have been thinking about you constantly lately.
- **C)** I have been loving you since the day we met!
- **D)** I have been believing we are soulmates for a long time.

7. Help the exhausted baker complain to her business partner by dragging the correct verbs into the blanks.

"I am so tired! I _____ since 4:00 AM! So far, I _____ exactly two hundred cupcakes."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** have been baking
- **B)** have baked
- **C)** am baking

Blank 2

- **A)** have finished
- **B)** have been finishing
- **C)** finish

8. Complete the gamer's exhausted text message to their friend.

I'm so tired! I _____ video games for six hours straight, but I _____ only three levels.

Select one.

- **A)** have been playing / have beaten
- **B)** have played / have been beating
- **C)** have been playing / have been beating
- **D)** play / have beaten

9. Help the exhausted detective update the police chief on their long stakeout. Select ALL the sentences that are grammatically correct for the report.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** We have been watching the suspect's house since midnight.
- **B)** We have identified three new accomplices so far.
- **C)** We have been identifying three new accomplices so far.
- **D)** We have been knowing about this secret plot for weeks.

10. Help the exhausted detective finish her dramatic case notes by selecting the correct verb tenses.

"I _____ this bakery for three hours, and my prime suspect hasn't shown up. It's frustrating because I _____ since yesterday that he is the notorious muffin thief."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** have been staking out
- **B)** have staked out
- **C)** am staking out

Blank 2

- **A)** have known
- **B)** have been knowing
- **C)** knew

11. Choose the correct phrase to complete the detective's dramatic reveal.

I finally caught the thief! I _____ it was the butler since the very beginning of the investigation.

Select one.

- **A)** have been knowing
- **B)** knew
- **C)** have known
- **D)** know

12. Complete the roommates' conversation about their messy weekend DIY project by choosing the best verb forms.

"Look at you! You _____ all morning, and you have more green paint in your hair than on the walls!"

"Hey, don't judge me! At least I _____ the entire living room ceiling while you were napping."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** are painting
- **B)** have been painting
- **C)** have painted

Blank 2

- **A)** have finished
- **B)** have been finishing
- **C)** finish