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Answers and Mark Schemes

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PRIMARY 3 · ENGLISH · GRAMMAR

Grammar

Theory and worked examples

Word Classes: The Job of Each Word

Every word in a sentence has a job. We group words by their job into word classes. Knowing the word classes helps you see what kind of word a blank needs.

KEY IDEA

TIP: Before you choose an answer, ask: "What kind of word fits this blank?" A word that describes HOW someone did something is an adverb.

Word class	What it does	Examples
Noun (naming word)	names a person, animal, place or thing	Aisha, cat, hawker centre, ball
Verb (action word)	tells what someone does or is	run, eat, is, was
Adjective (describing word)	describes a noun	tall, noisy, red
Adverb (often -ly)	tells how, when or where an action happens	quickly, softly, yesterday
Pronoun	takes the place of a noun	he, she, it, they, them
Preposition	shows where or when	on, under, at, into
Conjunction (joining word)	joins words or parts of a sentence	and, but, because, so

WORKED EXAMPLE

Name the word class of each underlined word.

The small puppy barked loudly at the postman.

1. "small" describes the puppy, which is a noun. So "small" is an adjective.
2. "loudly" tells us HOW the puppy barked. So it is an adverb (an -ly word).
3. "at" comes before "the postman" and shows where the barking was aimed. It is a preposition.

small: adjective; loudly: adverb; at: preposition

TRY THIS T1 · answer in the Answer Key at the back

Which word in this sentence is a conjunction?

Jun Wei was hungry, so he bought a bun.

Answer: _____

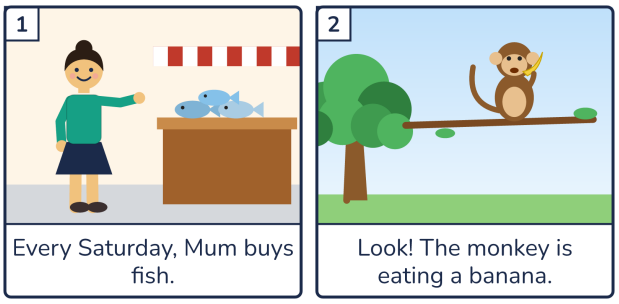
Present Tenses: Simple Present and Present Continuous

A tense tells us WHEN an action happens. The simple present is for habits and facts: things that happen again and again. The present continuous (am / is / are + -ing) is for an action that is happening right now.

KEY IDEA

Trap: "Look!" and "Listen!" mean the action is happening now. Use is / are + -ing, not the simple present.

- Simple present clue words: every day, every Sunday, always, usually, often, sometimes, never. "Mum always buys fish on Saturday."
- With he, she, it or one person or thing, add -s or -es: she walks, he watches, it flies. With I, you, we and they: walk, watch, fly.
- Present continuous clue words: now, right now, at the moment, Look!, Listen!, Be quiet! "Look! The monkey is eating a banana."
- Use am with I; is with he, she, it and one thing; are with you, we, they and many things.



WORKED EXAMPLE

Listen! The baby _____ in the bedroom.

(1) cry (2) cries (3) is crying (4) are crying

1. Find the clue word: "Listen!" The crying is happening right now.
2. Right now: present continuous, is / are + -ing.
3. "The baby" is one person, so "is", not "are".

(3) is crying

COMMON MISTAKES

× He go to school by bus. → ✓ He goes to school by bus.

× Look! The boys plays football. → ✓ Look! The boys are playing football.

TRY THIS T2 · answer in the Answer Key at the back

My grandfather _____ (walk) in the park every morning.

Answer: _____

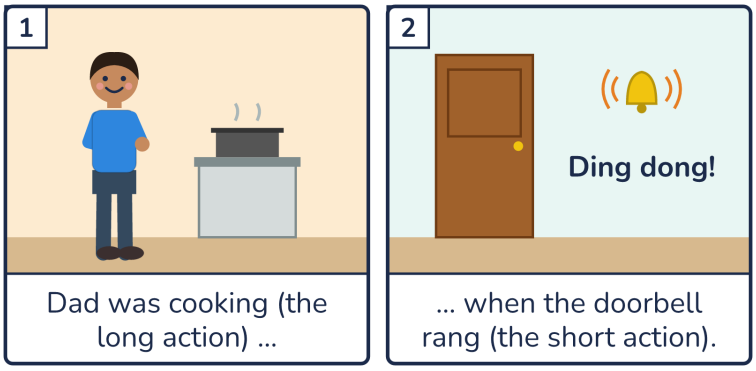
Past Tenses: Simple Past and Past Continuous

The simple past tells us about an action that is finished. The past continuous (was / were + -ing) tells us an action was going on, in the middle of happening, at a time in the past.

KEY IDEA

Remember: past continuous = was / were + -ing: "was running", never "was ran".

- Simple past clue words: yesterday, last night, last week, two days ago, just now. "We visited the Night Safari last Friday."
- Past continuous: was with I, he, she, it and one thing; were with you, we, they and many things.
- Two actions: the LONG action that was going on takes was / were + -ing. The SHORT action that cut in takes the simple past, often after "when". "I was reading when the lights went out."
- "while" goes with the long action: "While Dad was cooking, the doorbell rang."



WORKED EXAMPLE

Mei Ling _____ her bicycle when she saw a rainbow.

(1) rides (2) was riding (3) is riding (4) were riding

1. There are two actions in the past: riding and seeing.
2. Seeing the rainbow was short. It happened in the middle of the ride.
3. The long action takes was / were + -ing. "Mei Ling" is one person, so "was riding".

(2) was riding

COMMON MISTAKES

× I was went to the library. → ✓ I went to the library.

× They was waiting for the bus. → ✓ They were waiting for the bus.

TRY THIS T3 · answer in the Answer Key at the back

While the children _____ (swim), it started to rain.

Answer: _____

The Simple Future and the Base Verb

The simple future (will + verb) tells us about an action that will happen later. Clue words: tomorrow, next week, next year, soon, later. After "will", use the base verb: the plain verb with no -s, -ed or -ing.

KEY IDEA

TIP: After will, can, must, did, does and to, use the plain verb: no -s, no -ed, no -ing.

- "Ravi will visit his cousins tomorrow." (not "will visits")
- The base verb also comes after "to": wanted to buy, has to finish, likes to draw.
- The base verb also comes after can, must, did and does: "She can swim." "Did you see it?" "He does not like durian."
- "am / is / are going to" + base verb also tells about the future, often a plan: "We are going to visit Grandma on Sunday."



WORKED EXAMPLE

Aisha wanted to _____ a card for her teacher.
(1) make (2) makes (3) made (4) making

1. Look at the word just before the blank: "to".
2. After "to", we use the base verb.
3. The base verb is "make".

(1) make

COMMON MISTAKES

× Did you finished your homework? → ✓ Did you finish your homework?
× She will goes home soon. → ✓ She will go home soon.

TRY THIS T4 · answer in the Answer Key at the back

Next Saturday, our class _____ (go) to the Science Centre.

Answer: _____

Verb Forms: Spelling the Past and 30 Irregular Verbs

Most verbs add -ed for the simple past: play, played; jump, jumped. Watch the spelling: stop, stopped (one short vowel and one last letter: double it); smile, smiled (ends in e: add d); cry, cried (y after a consonant: change it to ied). Irregular verbs change in their own way, so learn them.

KEY IDEA

TIP: Some verbs do not change at all: cut, cut; put, put; hit, hit. For -ing, the same spelling rules apply: run, running; make, making.

Verb	Past	Verb	Past	Verb	Past
begin	began	bring	brought	buy	bought
catch	caught	choose	chose	come	came
draw	drew	drink	drank	drive	drove
eat	ate	fall	fell	feel	felt
fly	flew	forget	forgot	give	gave
go	went	grow	grew	hide	hid
hold	held	keep	kept	know	knew
leave	left	lose	lost	ride	rode
run	ran	see	saw	sing	sang
swim	swam	take	took	write	wrote

WORKED EXAMPLE

Write the correct form of the word in the brackets.
Last night, the puppy _____ (cry) at the door.

1. "Last night" shows the action is finished: simple past.
2. "cry" ends in y after a consonant (r), so change the y to i and add -ed.
3. cry → cri + ed = "cried".

cried

COMMON MISTAKES

× Yesterday I buyed a book. → ✓ Yesterday I bought a book.
× She droped her pen. → ✓ She dropped her pen.

TRY THIS T5 · answer in the Answer Key at the back

Yesterday, Hakim _____ (catch) a big fish at the pond.

Answer: _____

CHAPTER 1

Practice Questions

Part 2: Grammar



In the practice questions

46 questions, 46 marks. Read each question carefully and write your answers in the spaces given. The answers are on page 229.

- Section A: Grammar MCQ: Warm-up (8 x 1 mark): 8 questions, 8 marks
- Section A: Grammar MCQ: On Level (8 x 1 mark): 8 questions, 8 marks
- Section A: Grammar MCQ: Exam Challenge (4 x 1 mark): 4 questions, 4 marks
- Section B: Correct Form of the Word (10 x 1 mark): 10 questions, 10 marks
- Section C: Question Tags (5 x 1 mark): 5 questions, 5 marks
- Section D: Choose the Correct Word (6 x 1 mark): 6 questions, 6 marks
- Section E: Prepositions and Question Words (5 x 1 mark): 5 questions, 5 marks

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

PRIMARY 3 · ENGLISH · GRAMMAR

Grammar

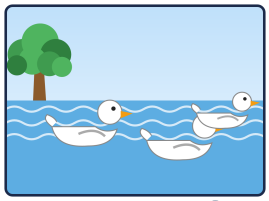
Section A: Grammar MCQ: Warm-up (8 x 1 mark)

For each question, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Choose the correct answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets.

1 My brother _____ his teeth every night before bed. ( ) [1]

(1) brushing (2) brushes (3) brush (4) are brushing

2 Look! The ducks _____ across the pond. ( ) [1]



(1) swims (2) swam (3) is swimming (4) are swimming

3 Please pass me _____ ruler on the far side of the table. ( ) [1]

(1) this (2) that (3) these (4) those

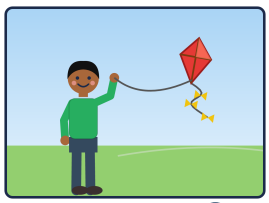
4 Mum added _____ salt to the soup to make it tasty. ( ) [1]

(1) a little (2) a few (3) many (4) few

5 Mrs Goh is a kind teacher. All the pupils like _____. ( ) [1]

(1) she (2) hers (3) her (4) herself

6 Ravi _____ a kite at East Coast Park last weekend. ( ) [1]



(1) fly (2) flies (3) flew (4) flying

7 Hafiz and his cousin _____ in the school choir. ( ) [1]

(1) sing (2) sings (3) is singing (4) was singing

8 Grandpa drank two glasses of water _____ he felt thirsty. ( ) [1]

① so ② but ③ or ④ because

Section A: Grammar MCQ: On Level (8 x 1 mark)

9 The children _____ football when the school bell rang. ( ) [1]

① was playing ② were playing ③ are playing ④ play

10 The homework for today _____ easy, so I can finish it quickly. ( ) [1]

① are ② were ③ is ④ have

11 Each girl in the team _____ a red ribbon in her hair. ( ) [1]

① have ② having ③ are having ④ has

12 Your cousins live in Jurong, _____? ( ) [1]

① don't they ② aren't they ③ didn't they ④ won't they

13 Siti cut _____ while she was peeling an apple. ( ) [1]

① himself ② herself ③ myself ④ themselves

14 Jia Hui has _____ good friends in her new school, so she is happy there. ( ) [1]

① few ② a little ③ much ④ a few

15 The frog hopped _____ the pond with a loud splash. ( ) [1]

① into ② among ③ between ④ on

16 "_____ took my pencil?" asked Aisha. ( ) [1]

① Whose ② Which ③ Who ④ Where

Section A: Grammar MCQ: Exam Challenge (4 x 1 mark)

Read carefully: these questions have traps.

17 A bundle of old newspapers _____ lying at the door when we reached home. ( ) [1]

① is ② are ③ was ④ were

18 Nadia never eats durian, _____? ( ) [1]

① does she ② doesn't she ③ is she ④ did she

19 My cousin and I _____ going to the Bird Paradise tomorrow. ( ) [1]

① am ② is ③ was ④ are

20 Very _____ pupils came to the party, so a lot of food was left over. ( ) [1]

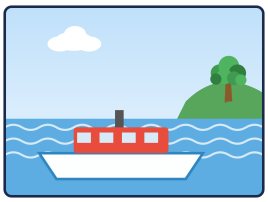
① a few ② few ③ a little ④ little

Section B: Correct Form of the Word (10 x 1 mark)

Write the correct form of the word in the brackets in the space given.

21 Be quiet! Grandpa _____ (rest) in his room. [1]

22 Last Sunday, we _____ (take) the ferry to Pulau Ubin. [1]



23 Priya always _____ (carry) an umbrella in her bag. [1]

24 Aunty Mary _____ (bake) cookies when the oven stopped working. [1]



25 Two days ago, my little brother _____ (fall) off his bicycle and hurt his knee. [1]

26 Mum has to _____ (cook) dinner early tonight. [1]

27 Next year, my sister _____ (be) seven years old. [1]

28 The children played _____ (noisy) in the playground. [1]

29 My little cousins dressed _____ (they) for school this morning. [1]

30 Farah _____ (clap) her hands when her team won. [1]