

THE SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE AND THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS

17. The simple present tense and the present continuous.

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct present tense.

1. Ann sees Paul putting on his coat and says: Where you (go), Paul?  
Paul: I (go) to buy some cigarettes. You (want) an evening paper?
2. Ann: No, thanks. Are you always buying cigarettes, Paul? How many you (smoke) a day?  
Paul: I (not smoke) very many – perhaps 20. Jack (smoke) far more than I (do). He (spend) 10\$ a week on cigarettes.
3. Mary (see) Peter standing at the bus stop.  
Mary: Hello, Peter. What bus you (wait) for?  
Peter: Hello, Mary. I (wait) for a 9 or a 14.
4. Mary: You usually (go) to work by car, don't you?  
Peter: Yes, but the car (belong) to my mother and she sometimes (want) it. She (use) it today to take Tom to the dentist.
5. Mary: I usually (go) by car too. Jack (take) me because he (pass) my office on his way to the factory. But this week he (work) in a factory in the opposite direction: so I (queue) like you.
6. Peter: Here's a 9 now. You (come) on it or you (wait) for a 14?  
Mary: I (think) I'll take the 9. if I (wait) for a 14 I may be late, and if you (be) late at my office everyone (look) at you.
7. Mary and Ann (wait) out side the telephone box. Inside the box a boy (dial) a number.  
Mary: You (know) the boy?  
Ann: Yes, he's a friend of my brother's. He (phone) his girl friend every day from this box.
8. Mary: Where he (Come) from?  
Ann: He (come) from Japan. He's very clever boy; he (speak) four languages.
9. Mary: I (wonder) what he (speak) now.  
Ann: Well, his girl friend (come) from Japan too; so I (suppose) he (speak) Japanese.
10. It is 8.30. Tom and Ann (have) breakfast. They both (open) their letters.  
Tom: no one ever (write) to me. All I (get) is bills! You (have) anything interesting?
11. Ann: I've got a letter from Hugh. He (say) he (come) to London next week and (want) us to meet him for lunch.
12. Peter: you (have) traffic wardens in your country?  
Pedro: No, I (not think) so. You (not see) them in my town anyway. What exactly a traffic warden (do)?
13. Peter: He (walk) up and down the street and if the car (stay) too long at a parking place or (park) in a no-parking area he (stick) a parking ticket to the windscreen.
14. Look! He (put) a ticket on Tom's car. Tom will be furious when he (see) it. He (hate) getting parking tickets.
15. Customer: I (want) to buy a fur coat. Have you any nice coats for about 500\$?  
Assistant: I'm afraid we just (lose), madam. It's 4.55\$, and we always (lose) at 5.00\$ sharp on Fridays as Mr Jones the manager (not want) to miss his favourite television programme.
16. It is Friday evening and the Brown family is at home. Mrs Brown sometimes (listen) to a concert on the radio; Mr Brown (read) a paper, George Brown (do) his homework and Ann Brown (write) a letter.
17. Mr Brown always (read) his newspaper in the evening. Mrs Brown sometimes (knit) but she (not knit) tonight.
18. Mr Black often (go) to theatre but his wife (not go) very often. He (like) all sorts of plays. She (prefer) comedies.
19. Tonight they (watch) a very modern comedy. They (enjoy) it, but they (not understand) some of the jokes.
20. What (happen) in your class? The teacher (give) lectures every day?



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- No. He (give) one lecture a week, and on the other days he (show) films or (discuss) books with us.
21. A bus conductor (get) more exercises than a bus driver. The driver just (sit) in his cab but the conductor (stand) and (walk) about and (run) up and down the stairs.
22. What the man (stand) in the middle of the road?  
He (try) to get across. He (wait) for a gap in the traffic.  
Why he (not use) the subway?  
Lost of people (not bother) to use the subway. They (prefer) to risk their lives crossing here.
23. You (wear) a new coat, aren't you?  
Yes, you (like) it?  
The colour (suit) you but it (not fit) you very well. It's much too big.
24. All the guides here (speak) at the least three foreign languages, because a lot of foreign visitors (come) every summer.
25. Paul (take) a party of French tourists round now and tomorrow an American party (come).
26. Englishmen very seldom (talk) to the Underground. They (prefer) to read their newspaper.  
Those two men in the corner (talk).  
But they (not talk) English.
27. Jones and CO. (have) a sale at the moment. Shall we look in on our way home?  
I'd love to but I'm afraid I won't have time. I (meet) Tom at 5.30.  
You (go) out with Tom often?
28. I usually (go) by train, but this weekend I (go) buy bus. It (take) longer but it (cost) less.
29. Ann (no telephone): You (do) anything at the moment, Sally?  
Sally: Yes. I (pack); I (catch) a plane to New York in three hours' time.  
Ann: Lucky girl! How long you (stay) in New York?
30. Peter: You (go) out tonight, Paul?  
Paul: No, I (stay) at home. The neighbours (come) in to watch TV.  
You (invite) the neighbours often?  
Paul: No, but they (invite) themselves whenever there is a good progarmme.
31. Jack: I just (go) out to get an evening paper.  
Ann: But it (pour)! Why you (not wait) till the rain (stop)? (I advise you to wait.)
32. Lucy: Tom (get) up very early but he (wash) and (shave) and (get) his breakfast so quietly that I (not hear) a thing. But I (hear) him driving away from the house because his car (make) a lot of noise.
33. Alice: My brother (get) up very early too. But he (make) such a lot of noise that he (wake) everybody up. He (sing) in his bath and (bang) doors and (drop) things in the kitchen and (play) the radio very loudly.
34. Lucy: Why you (not ask) him to be a bit quieter?  
Alice: I (mention) it every night but it (not do) any good. He (say) that he (not make) a sound, and I (think) he already (believe) it.
35. Tom: You (see) that man at the corner? He (keep) stopping people and asking them questions. You (think) he (ask) for directions?  
Jack: No, I (expect) he (make) a survey.  
Tom: How you (make) a survey?  
Jack: You (stop) people and (ask) them some questions and (write) the answers on a report sheet.
36. In most of countries a child (start) school at six and (stay) for about five years in a primary school. Then he (move) to a secondary school. At 17 or 18 he (take) exam; if eh (do) well in this exam he can go to a university if he (wish).
- 18. The simple present and the present continuous.**  
**Put the verbs in the brackets into the correct present tense.**
1. Mrs Jones: my daughter never (write) to me so I never (know) what she (do). Your son (write) to you, Mrs Smith?



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- Mrs Smith: Yes, I (hear) from him every week. He (seem) to like writing letters.
2. These apples (cost) 40p a bag. You (think) that is expensive?  
It (depend) on the size of the bag.
3. I (see) my solicitor tomorrow (I have arranged this); I (change) my will.  
You always (change) your will. Why you (not leave) alone?
4. You (look) very thoughtful. What you (think) about?  
I (think) about my retirement.  
But you're only 25. You only just (start) your career.  
I (know); but I (read) an article which (say) that a sensible man (start) thinking about retirement at 25.
5. My next door neighbours always (knock) on my door and (ask) me to lend her 10 pieces.  
What she (do) with them?  
She (put) them in her gas meter. I really (not mind) lending her a few 10p pieces but what (annoy) me is that she (know) how many she (need) each week but never (take) the trouble to bring the right number home.
6. What she (do) if she (run) out of them when you are away?  
Oh, she (borrow) from her other neighbours, Mr White; but this (take) longer because he always (want) her to stay and chat and she (find) it quite hard to get away from him.
7. How much she (owe) you now?  
I (not know); I (not keep) an account. Anyway she (leave) next week; she (get) married. I (try) to think of a suitable wedding present.
8. Why you (not offer) to cancel her debt?  
That (sound) rather a mean sort of present. Anyway she probably (not realize) that she (owe) me money.
9. My brother (say) that people who (owe) him money always (seem) to forget about it, but people he (owe) money to always (remember) exactly.
10. I (not think) your brother (enjoy) the party. He (keep) looking at this watch.  
Oh, I'm sure you (enjoy) it. He always (enjoy) your parties. But I (know) I want to be home early tonight because he (expect) an important telephone call.
11. Jack: How much longer you (stay) in England?  
Paul: Only one more day. I (leave) tomorrow night. I (go) to Holland for two weeks.
12. Jack: And you (come) back to England after that or you (go) home?  
Paul: It (depend) on my father. But if he (agree) to let me go on studying here I'll certainly come back. And I (expect) he agree.
13. Paul: By the way, Jack, Ann (see) me off at Victoria tomorrow. Why you (not come) too? You could have coffee with her afterwards. (Paul is advising /inviting to come and see him off.)
14. You (see) that man at the corner of the street? He is a private detective. He (watch) No.24?  
Because whenever anyone (come) out of, or (go) into, the house he (make) a note in his little book.
15. What all those people (do) in the middle of the street? And why they (wear) such extraordinary clothes?  
They (make) a film. Most of the crowds are local people who (work) as extras.
16. It (sound) great fun. You (think) I could get a job as a film extra?  
I (not know) but I (see) Ann over there; when they (finish) this scene I'll ask her if they still (take) on extras.
17. Ann (act) the film?  
She has a small part. She (not act) very well. I (imagine) she got the part because she (know) the director.
18. My brother (live) next door and his two children (come) and (see) me every day. The boy (not bother) to knock the door; he just (climb) in through the window; but the girl always (knock).
19. Tom: We (move) into our new house tomorrow.  
Bill: But why you (leave) your present house? It (suit) you all.



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- Tom: Yes, I (know) it (do); but the Council (pull) down all the houses on this side. They (widen) the road. They (say) its bottleneck.
20. If you (ask) a friend she (like) your new dress she usually (say) 'Yes'; so you (not know) whatever she really (think) it (suit) you or whatever she merely (be) polite.
21. If you (want) a candid opinion you'd better ask my sister. She never (tell) white lies; she always (say) exactly what she (think).
22. Your sister's frankness (annoy) people?  
Yes, it (do). The average person (not want) a truthful answer; he (Want) you to say something agreeable.
23. I (hear) that you have bought a new house.  
Yes, but I (not live) in yet. They still (work) on it, and the work (take) longer than I expected.
24. I (think) repair jobs always (take) longer than one (expect). What they (do) now?  
They (put) in new electric points. They (seem) competent electricians but they (smoke) at their work and this (slow) them down.
25. They always (hammer) next door.  
Yes, that house (keep) changing hands and the new owner always (begin) by putting un a new fireplace, and their fireplace is just on the other outside of this wall so we (hear) everything. The wall (shake), too.
26. Ann (stir) something in a saucepan and Mary (stand) beside her holding a cookery book.  
Mary: It (say) 'simmer', and you (boil) it, Ann.  
Ann: I (not think) it (matter) if you (cook) it quickly; but I (not know) why it (not get) thick. It usually (thicken) at once.
27. The hall (be) painted at the moment, so it (not look) its best.  
But where are the painters? They (stop) work at 3.00?  
No, they are in the kitchen. They (have) a tea break.
28. What the word 'Establishment' (mean)? My dictionary (not give) an explanation.  
It roughly (mean) the government and people who (have) power and authority.
29. If we (say) that Mr Brown (belong) to the Establishment we also (imply) that he (except) the existing system. He (not try) to overthrow it.
30. All rich men (belong) to the Establishment?  
Middle-aged rich men probably (do) but rich young men like pop singers always (jeer) at the Establishment. The word (be used) chiefly in a pejorative sense.
31. The house opposite the college (be pull) down. That's why we (use) the back entrance at present. If you (go) out by the front door you (get) covered with dust.
32. Tom: I (smell) something burning.  
Jack: So, I (do). I (think) it (Come) from the kitchen. Ann probably (iron). She usually (iron) and (watch) TV at the same time and if she (get) very interested in a programme she (forget) that she (press) a hot iron on to somebody's shirt. Mother (think) of selling the TV set.
33. Mrs Jones: What do you look for?  
Mr Jones: I (look) for a garage key. I always (look) for the garage key, because nobody ever (put) it back on its hook.  
Mrs Jones: I always (put) it back on its hook. Why you (not try) your pockets?
34. Imagine that you (travel) by train, in a crowded compartment. One of the passengers (read) a newspaper; another (do) a crossword puzzle; another (look) out of the window. Suddenly the train (stop) with a jerk and your suitcase (fall) of the rack on to somebody's toes.
35. This is a story about an invalid who (spend) most of the day in bed. He has a powerful telescope and he (amuse) himself by watching the activities of the people in the opposite house. One day when he (watch) No.24 he (see) a murder being committed.
36. The cashier used to do the accounts and I used to check his figures; now the computer (do) it all.  
And who (Check) the computer?  
No one. The computer (not need) a second opinion.



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And what (happen) if the computer (make) a mistake?

The computer never (make) a mistake.

### 19. The simple past and the past continuous.

**Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense: simple past or past continuous.**

1. Peter and Ann (decide) to redecorate their sitting-room themselves.
2. They (choose) cream paint for the woodwork and apricot for the wall.
3. When John (look) in to see how they (get) on, Ann (mix) the paint and Peter (wash) down the walls.
4. They (be) glad to see John and (ask) if he (do) anything special that day.
5. He hastily (reply) he (go) to the theatre and (go) away at once, because he (know) they (look) for someone to help them.
6. They (begin) painting, but (find) the walls (be) too wet.
7. While they (wait) for the walls to dry, Ann (remember) she (have) a phone call to make.
8. Peter (start) painting while she (telephone), and (do) a whole wall before Ann (come) back.
9. He (grumble) that she always (telephone).
10. Ann (retort) that Peter always (complain).
11. They (work) in silence for some time.
12. Just as they (start) the third wall, the doorbell (ring).
13. It (be) a friend of Peter's who (want) to know if Peter (play) golf the following weekend.
14. He (stay) talking to Peter in the hall while Ann (go) on painting.
15. At last he (leave).
16. Peter (return), expecting Ann to say something about friends and who (come) and (waste) valuable time taking about golf.
17. But Ann nobly (say) nothing.
18. Then Peter (think) he would do the ceiling.
19. He just (climb) the step ladder when the doorbell (ring) again.
20. Ann (say) she (get) tired of interruptions but (go) and (open) the door.
21. It (be) the postman with a letter from her aunt Mary, saying she (Come) to spend the weekend with them and (arrive) that evening at 6.30

### 20. The simple past and the past continuous.

**Put the verbs in brackets into the simple past or past continuous.**

1. I (walk) along Piccadilly when I (realize) that a man with a ginger beard, whom I had seen three times already that afternoon, (follow) me.
2. To make quite sure, I (walk) on quickly, (turn) right and (stop) suddenly at a shop window.
3. In a few minutes the man with the beard (appear) and (stop) at another shop window.
4. I (go) on.
5. Whenever I (stop) he (stop), and whenever I (look) round he (be) still there.
6. He (look) a very respectable type and (wear) very conventional clothes and I (wonder) if he was a policeman or a private detective.
7. I (decide) to try and shake him off.
8. A man (stand) at the bus stop just beside me.
9. Then the conductor (come) downstairs and (ring) the bell; just as the bus (move) off, I (jump) on it.
10. The man with the beard (miss) the bus but (get) into another 74, which (follow) the first.
11. Both bus (crawl) very slowly along Knightsbridge.
12. Every time the bus (pull) up at a stop, the man (look) out anxiously to see if I (get) off.
13. Finally, at some traffic lights, he (change) bus and (get) into mine.
14. At Gloucester Road Underground, I (leave) the bus and (buy) a ticket at a ticket machine.
15. As I (stand) on a platform waiting for the Circle Line train, my pursuer (come) down the stairs.



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16. He (carry) a newspaper and when we (get) into the same compartment, he (sit) in one corner reading it, and I (read) the advertisement.
17. He (look) over the top of the newspaper at every station to see if I (get) out.
18. I (become) rather tired of being shadowed like this, so finally I (go) and (sit) beside the man and (ask) him why he (follow) me.
19. At first he (say) he (not follow) me at all but when I (threaten) to knock him down, he (admit) that he was.
20. Then he (tell) me he (be) writer of detective stories and (try) to see if it wasn't difficult to follow someone unseen.
21. I (tell) him he hadn't been unseen because I had noticed him in Piccadilly and I (advise) him to shave off his ginger beard if he (not want) his victim to know he (be) followed.

### 21. The simple past and the past continuous.

**Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense: simple past or past continuous.**

1. He (sit) on the bank fishing when he (see) a man's hat floating down the river. It (seem) stranger familiar.
2. It (snow) heavily when we (sake) up. He (remember) that Jack (come) for lunch and (decide) to go down the station to meet him in case he (lose) his way in a snowy lanes.
3. When I (reach) the street I (realize) that I (not know) the number of Tom's house. I (wonder) what to do about it when Tom himself (tap) me on the shoulder.
4. As the goalkeeper (run) forward to seize the ball a bottle (strike) on the shoulder.
5. I (look) through the classroom window. A geometry lesson (go) on. The teacher (draw) diagram on the blackboard.
6. Most of the boys (listen) to the teacher but a few (whisper) to each other, and Tom (read) a history book. Tom (hate) mathematics; he always (read) history during the mathematics lesson.
7. Everyone (read) quietly when suddenly the door (burst) open and a complete stranger (rush) in.
8. I (got) to Jack's house but (not find) him in. His mother (say) that she (not know) what he (do) but (think) he probably (play) football.
9. This used to be a station and all the London trains (stop) here. But two years ago they (close) the station and (give) us a bus service instead.
10. She (promise) not to report me to the police but ten minutes later I (see) her talking with a policeman and from the expression on his face I am sure that she (tell) him about it.
11. I (pick) up the receiver and (dial) a number. To my surprise I (find) myself listening to an extraordinary conversation. Two men (plan) to kidnap the Prime Minister.
12. I (meet) Paul at the university. We (be) both in the same year. He (study) law, but he (not be) very interested in it and (spend) most of his time practicing the flute.
13. The train just (start) when the door (open) and two painting passengers (leap) in.
14. 'What you (do) between 9.00 and 10.00 yesterday?' (say) the detective.  
'I (clean) my house,' said Mrs Jones. 'I always clean my house on Saturday morning.'
15. My neighbour (look) in last night and (say) that he (leave) the district and (go) to Yorkshire, to a new job. I (say) that I (be) very sorry that he (go), and (tell) him to write to me from Yorkshire and tell me how he (get) on.
16. The dentist's waiting room was full of people. Some (read) magazines, others just (turn) over the pages. A woman (knit); a child (play) with a toy car. Suddenly the door (open) and the nurse (say), 'Next, please.'
17. They (build) that bridge when I (be) here last year. They haven't finished it yet.
18. The house next to yours (be) full of policemen and police dogs yesterday.  
What they (do)?  
I (hear) that they (look) for drugs.  
They (find) any?



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Yes, I believe one of the dogs (discover) some cannabis.

19. Peter (tell) me yesterday that he (make) his own 5\$ notes.

Don't believe him. He just (pull) your leg.

20. A traffic warden just (stick) a parking ticket to my windscreen when I (come) back to the car. I (try) to persuade him to tear it up but he (refuse).

21. Ann works in the branch where the big robbery (take) place.

She actually (work) there at the time of the raid?

22. When Ann (say) that she (come) to see me the next day, I (wonder) what flowers she would bring. She always brings flowers.

23. While I (wonder) whether to buy the dress or not, someone else (come) and (buy) it.

24. He always (borrow) from me (he borrowed more often than was reasonable) but when I once (ask) him to lend me something, he (say) he (not have) got it before he even (know) what I (want) to borrow.

25. I (go) home on foot and all the time I (have) the impression that I (be) followed (passive). But though I (turn) round several times, I never (see) anybody.

26. I (bump) into Tom yesterday. I (ask) him to join us for lunch tomorrow but he (say) he (have) (had arranged to have) lunch with Ann.

27. My dog (attack) the postman as he (put) the letters into the letter box. The man (thrust) a large envelope into the dog's mouth and of course he (tear) it. Unfortunately the letter (contain) my diploma. I (patch) the diploma up with Sellotape but it still looks a bit odd.]

28. How you (break) your leg?

I (fall) off a ladder when I (put) up curtains. They were worst of it (be) that it (be) just before the holidays and I (go) away. (Had planned to go away.)

29. So you (not go) away?

No, of course not. I (cancel) my bookings and (spend) the holiday hobbling about at home.

30. The curtain just (rise) when somebody at the back of the theatre (shout) 'Fire!' the audience (look) round nervously.

31. As it (rain) the children (play) in the sitting room. Tom was there too. He (try) to write a letter but he (not get on) very well because the children (keep) asking him some questions.

32. What you (do) when the doorbell (ring)?

I (make) a cake.

And what you (do) when you (hear) the bell?

I (go) to answer it of course. But when I (open) the door there (be) nobody there.

33. A few minutes later the bell (ring) again and this time I (find) a man in a peaked cap who (Say) he (make) a survey.

34. I (say), '(be) it you who (ring) this bell a minutes ago?'

'No,' he (answer), 'but when I (talk) to your neighbour I (see) a man standing at your door. I think he (go) round the back of your house.'

35. We (not get) much sleep last night because the people next door (have) a noisy party. I (ring) up the landlord and (say) that is tenants (make) too much noisy. He (point) out that it (be) Saturday and that people often (have) parties on Saturday nights. I (say) that the people in his house always (have) parties. (Had too many parties.)

36. What you (do) before you (get) there?

I (work) for Brown and Company.

And how long you (stay) with them?

I (stay) for about six months. I (leave) because they always (go) on strike. It (become) quite monotonous.

### 22. The present perfect with for or since.

**Part 1: Answer these following questions as shown in the examples:**

1. Can you play chess? (ten years)



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2. Can you sing? (I came to England)
3. Could you milk a cow? (I left my father's farm)
4. Can you put up a tent? (I went camping two years ago.)
5. Can you make Yorkshire pudding? (over a year)
6. Can you read Latin? (I left school)
7. Could you bath a baby? (fifteen years)
8. Could you repair the radio? (I left the army)
9. Can you ski? (my last holiday)
10. Can you read a map? (quite a long time)
11. Could you make a basket? (I was in hospital)
12. Can you sew on buttons? (I got married)
13. Can you drive a car? (over six months)
14. Could you take someone's temperature? (years)
15. Can you ride a motorcycle? (I was at the university)
16. Can you row a boat? (1977)
17. Can you paint in oils? (some time)
18. Can you type? (years and years)

### **Part 2: Rephrase the following sentences, using the present perfect tense with for or since.**

19. It's two years since I had a puncture.
20. It's two months since he earned any money.
21. He last shaved the day before yesterday.
22. I last drank champagne at my brother's wedding.
23. It's two years since I was last in Rome.
24. I saw Tom last on his wedding day.
25. I last ate raw fish when I was in Japan.
26. It's years since Mary last spoken French.
27. It's ten week since I last had a good night's sleep.
28. He last paid taxes in 1970.
29. I last ate meat five years ago. (omit ago)
30. It's three months since the windows were cleaned.
31. It's years since I took any photographs.
32. I last watched TV on New Year's Day.
33. It's three months since he wrote to me.
34. I was last paid six months ago. (my pay is six months in arrears)
35. The last time I was aboard was in the summer of 1978.
36. It's ten years since that house was lived in.

### **23. The present perfect and the past simple.**

#### **Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense: present perfect or the simple past.**

1. Paul: I (play) football since I was five years old.  
Tom: You (play) since you (Come) to England?  
Paul: Oh yes. I (play) quite a lot. I (join) in a club the day after I (arrive).
2. Tom: You (play) many matches?  
Paul: we (play) about ten. We have to more to play. We have a very good season, we (win) all our matches so far, though we (not really deserve) to win the last one.
3. Ann: Hello, Jack! I (not see) you for ages! Where you (be)?  
Jack: I (be) in Switzerland. I (mean) to send you a postcard but I (not have) your address with me.  
Ann: Never mind. You (have) a good time in Switzerland? How long you (be) there?  
Jack: I (be) there for a month. I only just (get) back. Yes, I (enjoy) it thoroughly. I (ski) all day and (dance) all night.



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4. Tom: I (play) football when I (be) at school but when I (leave) school I (drop) it and (take) up golf.
5. Ann: I (ski) when I (be) at the university, but I (break) a leg five years ago and since then I (not do) any.
6. When I first (Come) to this house, it (be) very quiet area. But since then a new housing estate (be) built and it (become) very noisy.
7. My son (not start) work yet. He's still at the High School.  
How long he (be) at school?  
He (be) at the High School for six years; before that he (spend) five years in the Primary School in Windmill Street.
8. I just (hear) that Peter is in Australia.  
Oh, you (not know)? He (fly) out at the beginning of the month.  
You (hear) from him? Does he like his life?  
Yes, I (get) a letter last week. He (tell) me about his job. But he (not say) whether he (like) the life or not. Perhaps it's too soon to say. He only (be) there three weeks.
9. I (not know) you (be) left-handed.  
I'm not left-handed; but my oil-heater (explode) yesterday and I (burn) my right hand, so I have to use my left.
10. This bicycle (be) in our family for fourteen years. My father (use) it for the first five years, my brother (ride) it for the next five, and I (have) it for the last four.
11. I (hear) that your MP, Mr Simpson, (make) a very clever speech last night. How long he (be) your MP?  
Oh, we only (have) him since January. His predecessor Mr Allen (resign) suddenly because of ill-health and there (be) a by-election.
12. I hear that Mr Jones (leave).  
Yes, he (leave) last week.  
Anybody (be) appointed to take his place?  
I believe several men (apply) for the job but so far nothing (be) decided.
13. Peter (meeting Ann at the airport): Hello, Ann. You (have) a good trip?  
Ann: The actual flight (be) lovely, one of the best I (have) ever, but it (take) ages to get into the plane. First they (think) that one of us (be) a hijacker and they (search) us all for firearms; then they (announce) that one of the engines (be) faulty. We finally (take off) an hour later.
14. Peter: How you (spend) this extra hour before take off?  
Ann: Oh, they (take) us to the restaurant and (feed) us and we (walk) about and (buy) things we (not need). This time (pass) all right.
15. You (book) your hotel room yet?  
Well, I (write) to the hotel last week but they (not answer) yet.
16. Peter (meeting Paul unexpectedly in London): Hello, Paul! I (not know) you (be) here.  
Paul: Oh, I (be) here nearly two months. I (arrive) on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January.
17. Peter: You (know) any English when you first (arrive)?  
Paul: No, I (not know) a word.
18. Peter: When we last (meet) you (say) that nothing would induce you to come to England. What (make) you change your mind?  
Paul: I (find) that I (need) English for my work and this (seem) the quickest way of learning it.
19. Ann (to Yvonne, who is going to English classes): How long you (learn) English?  
Yvonne: I (learn) off and on for about five and a half years. (Use the continuous tense)
20. I (begin) English at secondary school and (do) it for three years. Then I (drop) it for a year and (forget) most of it. Then I (spend) two years at a secretarial college, where I (study) commercial English, and for the last six months I (study) in London.
21. At 4 p.m. my neighbour (ring) up and (say), 'Is Tom with you?' Tom, her son, (spend) most of his time in my garden playing with my children, so wherever she (not be able) to find him she (ring) me. 'I'm



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afraid I (not see) him today,' I (say). 'But my children (go) to the beach this morning and (not come) back yet. Perhaps he (go) with them.'

22. I just (have) my first driving lesson

How it (go)? You (enjoy) it?

Well, I no actually (hit) anything but I (make) every other possible mistake.

23. Old Ben (sell) newspaper just inside the station entrance, and my father always (buy) his evening paper from him as he (leave) the station in his way home. But one day my father (arrive) home without his paper. 'Ben (not be) there this evening,' he (say). 'I hope he (not be taken) ill.'

24. On Saturday afternoon I (see) Frederick sitting in his garden.

'I (think) you (work) on Saturday,' I (say).

'I (work) this morning,' (explain) Frederick, 'but at lunch time the boss (go) off to play golf and (tell) us to go home. It's about time he (give) us a whole Saturday off actually. I (work) practically every Saturday since the beginning of the year.'

25. Ann: You (be) to Hampton Court?

Jane: Yes, you (go) there last week. The tulips (be) wonderful.

Ann: You (go) by car?

Jane: No, I (go) with my English class. We (hire) a coach.

26. Ann: Where else you (be) since you (come) to England?

Jane: Oh, I (be) to Strafford and Coventry and Oxford and Canterbury.

27. Ann: You (see) a lot. When you (go) to Strafford?

Jane: I (go) last week. The people I work for (take) me.

28. Ann: You (see) a play at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre when you (be) at Strafford?

Jane: Yes, we (see) Macbeth. We were very lucky. We just (walk) in and ask if they (have) any returned tickets, and the girl at the box office (say), 'Yes, a man just (return) three stalls.'

29. Ann: You (be) to Wales?

Jane: No, I (be) to Scotland but I (not be) to Wales. I'd like to go.

30. Peter: You (see) any good film lately?

Ann: Yes, I (go) to the National Film Theatre last week and (see) a Japanese film.

Peter: You (like) it?

Ann: Yes, I (love) it, but of course I (not understand) a word.

31. Tom: I hear that Mr Benson just (die). You (know) him quite well, didn't you?

Jack: Yes, we (work) for the same company for ten years. I (not see) so much of him after he (leave) the company but he (keep) in touch.

32. Ann (think) the garage (be) empty, and (turn) off the lights. 'Hey!' (shout) Paul from under the car. 'I'm sorry, Paul,' (say) Ann, 'I (not know) you (be) there.'

33. Father: Tom (not come) back yet?

Mother: Yes, he (come) in an hour ago. He (go) straight to bed.

Father: Funny. I (not hear) him.

34. Paul: That's a live wire. It just (give) me shock.

Ann: Nonsense! I just (touch) it and I (not feel) anything!

35. When Paul (come) into the room, Ann was sitting in a armchair just behind the door. Paul, not noticing Ann, (go) to the window and (look) out. Ann (cough) and Paul (spin) round. 'Hello, Ann!' he (explain), 'I (not see) you!'

36. Jack: You just (agree) to go, so why aren't you getting ready?

Peter: But I (not realize) that you (Want) me to start at once!

### 24. The present perfect and the simple past.

**Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense: present perfect or the simple past.**

1. I (buy) a new house last year, but I (not sell) my old house yet, so at the moment I have two houses.



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2. When Ann (be) on her way to the station it (begin) to rain. Ann (run) back to her flat for her umbrella, but this (make) her late for her train.
3. She (catch) the next train but it (not get) in till 9.00, so she (arrive) at her office ten minutes late.
4. Her boss (look) up as she (come) in. 'You (be) late every morning this week,' he (growl).
5. At 7 a.m. Charles (ring) Peter and (say), 'I'm going fishing, Peter. Would you like to come?' 'But it's so early,' (say) Peter. 'I (not have) breakfast yet. Why you (not tell) me last night?'
6. Tom (meet) Paul at lunch time and (say), 'I (not see) you at the bus stop this morning. You (miss) the bus?' 'I (not miss) it,' (reply) Paul, 'I (not miss) the bus for years. But this morning George (give) me a lift.'
7. Ann (go) to Canada six months ago. She (work) in Canada for a while and then (go) to the United States.
8. Mary (be) in Japan for two years. She is working there and likes it very much.  
How she (go)?  
She (go) by air.
9. When I (buy) new house I (ask) for a telephone. The Post Office (tell) me to wait, but I (wait) a year now and my phone still (not come).
10. Bill usually has breakfast at 8.00. Yesterday at 8.30 Peter (meet) Bill and (offer) him an apple. 'No, thanks,' (say) Bill. 'I just (have) breakfast.'
11. Just as Ann (arrive) at the airfield a plane (land) and a girl (climb) out. To her surprise Ann (recognize) her cousin, Lucy. 'Hello, Lucy,' she (exclaim). 'I (not know) that you (know) how to fly a plane.' 'I only just (learn),' (say) Lucy. 'I (go) solo for the first time last week.'
12. Peter (try) to come in quietly but his mother (hear) him and (call) out, 'Where you (be)? Your supper (be) in the oven for an hour.'
13. You (be) the theatre lately?  
Yes, I (go) to Othello last week.  
You (like) it?  
Yes, but I (not see) very well. I (be) right at the back.
14. Ann (coming out of a bookshop): I just (buy) a copy of David Copperfield. You (read) it?  
Mary: As it happens it is the only one of Dickens's books that I (not read). I (not even seen) the film.
15. You (be) to Cambridge?  
Yes, I (be) there last month.  
How you (get) there?  
My brother (take) me in his car.
16. You (see) Philip lately? I (ring) his flat several times last week but (get) no answer.  
Oh, he (be) in America for the last month. He (fly) out on the first for a conference and then (decide) to stay for six weeks.  
You (hear) from him?  
Yes, I (get) a letter shortly after he (arrive).
17. How long you (be) in your present job?  
I (be) there for six months.  
And what you (do) before that?  
Before that I (work) for Jones and Company.
18. How long you (work) for Jones and Company?  
I (work) them for two years.  
You (like) working for them?  
No, I (not like) it at all.  
Then why you (stay) so long?
19. We usually go out on Saturday evenings, but last Saturday (be) so wet that we (stay) and (play) cards.  
What you (play)?



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- We (play) poker. I (lose) fifteen pence.
20. When you (begin) school?  
I (begin) school when I (be) five. I (go) to a primary school first. I (stay) there for six years and then I (go) to a comprehensive school.
21. When I (be) seventeen I (start) my university course.  
When you (get) your degree?  
Oh, I (not get) my degree yet, I'm still at the university. I only (be) there for two years.
22. Tom (leave) the house at 8.20. At 8.25 the phone in Tom's house (ring), Tom's wife, Mary, (answer) it.  
'Could I (speak) to Tom please?' (say) the caller.  
'I'm afraid he just (go) out,' Mary (say).
23. You (be) in Cornwall?  
Yes, I (be) there last Easter  
You (go) by train?  
No, I (hitch-hike).
24. I (not see) Charles for some time.  
He (be) ill, poor chap. He (collapse) at work a fortnight ago and (be taken) to hospital. They (send) him home after two days but he (not come) back to work yet.
25. There (be) a very good programme on TV last night. You (see) it?  
No, I (take) my set back to the shop last week because there (be) so much distortion; and they (say) it (need) a new part. They (not be able) to get the new part so far, so I (not watch) television for about ten days.
26. You ever (be) to France?  
Yes, I (spend) last July and August in Grenoble. I (go) to improve my French but everyone I (meet) (want) to improve his English so I (not get) much practice.
27. The postman usually comes between 8.00 and 9.00 in the morning. At 8.45 a.m. yesterday Ann (say),  
'Are there any letter for me?'  
'I don't know,' (say) Mary. 'The postman (not come) yet.'  
At 11 a.m. Jack, Mary's husband, (ring) from his office to ask if there (be) any letter for him. 'No,' (say) Mary. 'Nobody (get) letter today. The postman (not come).'
28. Mr Speed, Ann's employer, (dictate) three letters and (tell) Ann to type them as soon as possible. Half an hour later he (ring) Ann's office. 'You (finish) those letters yet?' he (ask).  
'Well,' (say) Ann, 'I (do) the letters for Mr Jones, and I'm now typing the one to Mr Robinson, but I (not start) the one to Mr Smith yet.'
29. You (find) out yet about the trains to Liverpool?  
No. I (ring) the station last night but the man who (answer) the phone (not seem) to be sure of this times. He (say) something about the new timetable.  
But the new timetable (be) in operation for three weeks.
30. Tom and Jack (work) in different offices but go to work in the same train. One evening Tom's wife (say), 'Jack (move) into his new house yet?' 'I don't know,' (say) Tom, 'I (not see) Jack today. He (not be) in the train.'
31. Where you (be)?  
I (be) shopping in Oxford Street.  
So I suppose you (buy) shoes?  
Yes. I (find) a shop where they were having a sale and I (get) three pairs.
32. In the evenings I often play chess with my next door neighbour. I (play) chess with him ever since I (come) to live here ten years ago. He (be) here all his life; he (inherit) the house from his father, another great chess player.  
You ever (play) chess with the father?  
We (play) once or twice but he (die) a year after I (arrive).



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33. I can't find my gloves. You (see) them?

Yes, you (leave) them in the car yesterday. I (put) them back in your drawer.

34. I hope you're enjoying your visit to England. You (meet) any Englishmen yet?

Yes, I (meet) a man called Smith at a party last night.

What you (talk) about?

We (talk) about the weather.

35. Mrs Jones: For years I (do) all my washing by hand; then last year I (buy) a washing machine and I must say it (make) washing day much less exhausting. It only takes me an hour now.

Mrs White: I don't like washing machines. I always (do) my washing by hand and I intend to go on doing it. I always (find) it very satisfying work.

36. Tom: Don't you think it's time we (have) something different for Sunday dinner?

Ann: But we (have) roast beef for Sunday dinner ever since we (get) married. Your mother (tell) me that you (be) particular fond of roast beef.

Tom: But my mother (be) dead for five years and in those five years my tastes (change)

**25. The present perfect simple and continuous.**

**Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense: present perfect simple or present perfect continuous.**

1. Peter: You (telephone) for ages. You not nearly (finish)?

Jack: I (not get) through yet. I (try) to get our Paris office but the line (be) engaged all morning.

2. Ann (fail) her driving tests three times because she's so bad at reversing. But she (practise) reversing for the last week and I think she (get) a bit better at it.

3. Tom: I often (wonder) why Bill left the country so suddenly.

Peter: Actually, I just (find) out.

4. He (play) the bagpipes since six o'clock this morning. He only just (stop).

5. Why you (not bring) me the letters for signature? You (not type) them yet?

6. Tom (looking up absent-mindedly as Mary comes in): You (sunbath)?

Mary (crossly): Don't be ridiculous! It (rain) all day!

7. A pair of robins (build) a nest in the porch since last week. I (watch) them from my window since they (begin).

8. The police (not find) the murderer yet, but the dead man's brother (be) in the station all day. The police (say) that he (help) them with their enquiries.

9. They (pull) down most of the houses in this street, but they (not touch) the old shop at the corner yet.

10. Tom is convinced that there is gold in these hills but we (search) for six months and (not see) any sign of it.

11. I (wait) for the prices of the house to come down before buying a house, but I think I (wait) too long and the prices are beginning to go up again.

12. Peter (be) a junior clerk for three years. Lately he (look) for a better post but so far he (not find) anything.

13. I (do) housework all morning and I (not finish) yet.

I (do) mine already. I always (start) at 6 a.m.

14. I just (pick) ten pounds of strawberries. I (grow) strawberries for year but I never (have) such a good drop before.

15. What you (do) with the corkscrew? The point is broken off.

I'm afraid I (use) it to make hole in this tin.

16. She just (sell) two of her paintings.

She's lucky. I (paint) for five years and I (not sell) a single picture yet.

17. They are throwing crockery at each other in the next flat.

This (happen) before?

Well, they (have) a good many row but this is the first time they (throw) crockery.

18. What you (do) with my typewriter? I can't find anywhere.



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Tom just (go) off with it. He says he'll bring it back when he (finish).

19. He (work) to Crow Brothers for forty years and never once (be) late. This firm just (present) him with a gold watch as a sign of their appreciation.
20. We (mend) sheets all morning but we only (do) three, and now the sewing machine (break) down so we'll be even slower with the next one.
21. George (collect) matchboxes ever since he left school. Now he (collect) so many that he doesn't know where to put them.
22. I (look) through my old photograph album. It's full of photographs of people whose names I completely (forget). I wonder what (happen) to them all.
23. It was lovely at eleven o'clock, but since then the sky (get) steadily darker and the wind (rise). I'm afraid the fine spell (come) to an end.
24. Since he became Mayor, my brother reckons that he (eat) 30 official lunches and 22 official dinners, and he (lose) count of the number of receptions and parties that he (attend).  
He (put) on a lot of weight?
25. Secretary: Customers (ring) up all morning complaining about getting incorrect bills.  
Manager: I know; something (go) wrong with our computer. The mechanic (work) on it. I hope he (find) out what's wrong.
26. Someone (use) my umbrella! It's all wet! And it was wet yesterday and the day before!  
Well, it wasn't me. I (not be) out of the house for a week!
27. I (stand) in this queue for ages. It (not move) at all in the last five minutes. I think the man in the ticket office just (shut) his window and (go) off for lunch.
28. The Town Council (consider) my application for permission to build a garage for three months. They just (give) my neighbours permission to build one, so I hope they (decide) to let me have one too.
29. You look exhausted!  
Yes, I (play) tennis and I (not play) for years, so I'm not used to it.
30. They began widening this road three weeks ago; but the workmen (be) on strike for the last fortnight so they (not get) very far with it.
31. That man (stand) at the bus stop for the last half an hour now. Shall I tell him that the last bus already (go)?
32. I wonder if anything (happen) to Tom. I (wait) an hour now. He often (keep) me waiting but he never (be) quite so late as this.
33. Mrs Brown (live) next door for quite a long time now but she never (say) more than 'Good morning' to me.
34. I just (remember) that I (not pay) the rent yet. I am surprised that the landlord (not ring) me up to remind me.  
It is the first time you (be) late with the rent in 25 years. He probably thinks that you (pay) and he (lose) the cheque.
35. Shop assistant: Could you give me some proof of your identity, madam?  
Customer: But I (shop) here for fifteen years!  
Shop assistant: I know, madam, but apparently the company (lose) a lot of money lately through dud cheque and they (make) new regulations which we (be told) to apply to all customers no matter how long we (know) them.
36. What you (do)? I (look) for you for ages.  
I (build) a barbecue in the garden.

### 26. The simple past and the past perfect, simple and continuous.

**Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense.**

1. He (give) me back the book, (thank) me for lending it to him and (say) that he (enjoy) it very much; but I (know) that he (not read) it because most of the pages (be) still uncut.
2. When he (see) his wife off the station, he (return) home as he (not have) to be at the airport till 9.30.



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3. He (not have) to pack, for his wife already (do) that for him and his case (be) ready in the hall.
4. He (not have) to check the doors and the windows either, for his wife always (do) that before she (leave) the house.
5. All he (have) to do (be) to decide whether or not to take his overcoat with him. In the end he (decide) not to.
6. At 8.30 he (pick) up his case, (go) out of the house and (slam) the door behind him.
7. Then he (feel) in his pockets for the key, for his wife (remind) him to double-check the front door.
8. When he (search) all his pockets and (find) no key he (remember) where it (be).
9. He (leave) it in his overcoat pockets.
10. Then he (remember) something else; his passport and tickets (be) in his overcoat pockets as well.
11. I (arrive) in England in the middle of July. I (be told) that England (be) shrouded in fog all year round, so I (be) quite surprised to find that it was merely raining.
12. I (ask) another passengers, an Englishmen, about the fog and he (say) that there (not be) any since the previous February.
13. If I (want) fog, he said, I (come) a quite the wrong time.
14. However, he (tell) me that I could buy tinned fog at a shop in Shaftsbury Avenue.
15. He (admit) that he never (buy) fog there himself but (assure) me that they (sell) good quality fog and that it (not be) expensive. I suppose he was joking.
16. When the old lady (return) to her flat she (see) at once that burglars (break) in during her absence, because the front door (be) open and every thing in the flat (be) upside down.
17. The burglars themselves (be) no longer there, but they probably only just (leave) because a cigarette was still burning on an ornamental table.
18. Probably they (hear) the lift coming up and (run) down the fire escape.
19. They (help) themselves to her whisky too but there (be) a little left, so she (pour) herself out a drink.
20. She (wonder) if they (find) her jewelry and rather (hope) that they had.
21. The jewelry (be give) her by her husband, who (die) some years before.
22. Since his death, she (not have) the heart to wear it, yet she (not like) to sell it.
23. Now it (seem) that fate (take) the matter out of her hands; and certainly the insurance money would come in handy.
24. I (put) the 5\$ note into the one of my books; but next day it (take) me ages to find it because I (forget) which book I (put) it into.
25. A woman (come) in with a baby, who she (say) just (swallow) a safety pin.
26. I (think) my train (leave) at 14.33, and (be) very disappointed when I (arrive) at 14.30 and (learn) that it just (leave).
27. I (find) letter that I (use) an out-of-date timetable.
28. He (park) his car under a No Parking sign and (rush) into the shop. When he (come) back out of the shop ten minutes later the car (be) no longer there.
29. He (wonder) if someone (steal) it or if the police (drive) it away.
30. It (be) now 6 p.m.; and Jack (be) tired because he (work) hard all day.
31. He (be) also hungry because he (have) nothing to eat since breakfast.
32. His wife usually (bring) him sandwiches at lunch time, but today for some reason she (not come).
33. He (keep) looking at her, wondering where he (see) her before.
34. I (look) out before I (go) to bed and (see) a man standing on the opposite pavement watching the house.
35. When I (get) up the following morning he (be) still there, and I (wonder) whether he (stay) there all night or if he (go) away and (come) back.
36. When I (open) the door I (see) a man on his knees.
37. He clearly (listen) to our conversation and I (wonder) how much he (hear).
38. When I (ask) him what he (do), he (say) that he (drop) at 50p piece outside the door and (look) for it.



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39. I (not see) any sign of the money, but I (find) a small notebook and pencil which he probably (drop) when the door (open) suddenly.
40. So he (take) notes of our conversation!
41. The notes (be) written in a foreign language, so I (turn) to the stranger and (ask) him to translate.
42. But he (pull) my hat over my eyes and (run) off down the corridor.
43. By the time I (recover) from the shock he (disappear) round the corner.
44. Curiously enough, when I (move) my foot I (find) that I (stand) on a 50p piece.
45. Perhaps he (tell) the truth after all!

**27. Questions.**

**Make questions for which the following would be reasonable answers.**

1. They went **to New York**.
2. It takes **four hours** to get there.
3. I didn't think **much** of it.
4. He earns **a hundred pounds a week**.
5. He (Tom) was fined **ten pounds**.
6. It (my room) is **twice as big as yours**.
7. They left the country **ten years ago**.
8. They came **by bus**.
9. I've been here **for two months**.
10. They (the students) went **to the museum** yesterday.
11. It (the car) does **fifty to the gallon**.
12. He met her **in a coffee bar**.
13. They (the neighbours) complained about **the smell**.
14. He (the clerk) made him **fill up a form**.
15. **The pigs** ate them (the apples).
16. He got in **by climbing over the wall**.
17. **John** bought them (the tickets).
18. They (the road) **very crowded**.
19. I smoke **forty** (cigarettes) a day.
20. It (the hotel) was **awful**.
21. It (the market) is **a stone's throw** from there.
22. I've had it (this cough) **since the beginning of October**.
23. He (Guy Fawkes) tried **to blow Parliament**.
24. I'd like to speak to **Mr Jones** please.
25. This is **Tom's**.
26. He stopped it (the train) **by pulling the communication cord**.
27. I've been waiting **for half an hour**.
28. She (Mary) put it **in the dustbin**.
29. I threw it away **because I was tired of it**.
30. There are **four** (hotel in then town.)
31. They left it (the lawnmower) **outside**.
32. I found her address by **calling at every house in the village**.
33. She (Ann) gave me **duck and greens peas for lunch**.
34. It (the lake) is **very deep indeed**.
35. I borrowed **my brother's** car.
36. He **buried it in the garden**.

**28. Questions.**

**See previous exercise for instructions.**

1. He told me **exactly what happened**.



BÀI TẬP TIẾNG ANH DÀNH CHO GIÁO VIÊN

2. It (the bridge) is built of **reinforced concrete**.
3. We're all going **to watch the cricket match**.
4. He broke it (his leg) **in a skiing accident**.
5. He (Tom) lost his job **because he kept coming in late for work**.
6. I bought **the big one**.
7. It (the new theatre) **looks rather like a factory**.
8. I'd like **about a dozen**.
9. It (the concert) began **at 8 p.m.**
10. She went (to the dance) with **George**.
11. He bought one (a car) **because the local railway station closed down**.
12. He's coming **at the end of the week**.
13. **That** one is longer.
14. **Jack** taught me (no play poker).
15. She's broken **another or your best plates**.
16. I'm looking for **a telephone box**.
17. He's borrowed **your** typewriter.
18. She was asking him for **a rise**.
19. He's ring up **the police**.
20. It (the word 'boss') means **employer**.
21. He escaped **by climbing over the prison wall**.
22. We were talking about **Margaret**.
23. They liked **Ann's** idea best.
24. He complained to **the manager**.
25. It was **about the size of an orange**.
26. They (the students) intend to **demonstrate against the new regulations**.
27. I come from **Scotland**.
28. The best kind of costs **about twenty pounds**.
29. He gave it away **because he didn't like the colour**.
30. She (his sister) **is very pretty**.
31. It (this knife) is for **opening oyster**.
32. In the mornings I have to **get the breakfast, make the beds and take Mrs White's children to school**.
33. I like the black one best.
34. He comes (to London) **about once a month**.
35. **Your father** told me about it.
36. He's **quick-tempered and impulsive**.

