



Name of the Bundle	Basic Bundle	Subject	Communicative English & Soft Skills
Topic	Past tense	Last updated on	23 April 2024

## Multiple Choice Questions on Past tense:

1. It \_\_\_\_\_ a great event yesterday.

- a. is
- b. was
- c. were
- d. are

**Ans: b. was**

**Explanation:** This sentence refers to a past event or a situation. The word "was" is the correct past tense form for the third-person singular subject "It."

2. Sam and Sid \_\_\_\_\_ a new house last month.

- a. buy
- b. buying
- c. buyed
- d. bought

**Ans: d. bought**

**Explanation:** In this sentence, last month indicates the past. So, "bought," which is the past tense of the verb "buy," is used.

3. I \_\_\_\_\_ Salem the previous week.

- a. visit
- b. visited
- c. visiting
- d. visits

**Ans: b. visited**

**Explanation:** In this sentence, the previous week indicates the past. So, "visited," which is the past tense of the verb "visit," is used to match the subject 'I'.



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4. She \_\_\_\_ a nap in the afternoon.

- a. take
- b. taked
- c. took
- d. tooked

**Ans: c. took**

**Explanation:** The past tense of the verb "take" is "took."

5. They \_\_\_\_ this book on their trip to Italy.

- a. finded
- b. finding
- c. found
- d. finds

**Ans: c. found**

**Explanation:** "Found" is the past tense form of the verb "find" and is appropriate here because it indicates a completed action in the past.

6. I had \_\_\_ this cake by myself.

- a. baking
- b. baked
- c. bakes
- d. bake

**Ans: b. baked**

**Explanation:** "Baked" is the past tense form of the verb "bake" and is suitable here because it indicates a completed action in the past.



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7. We \_\_\_\_\_ New York was in England.

- a. thought
- b. think
- c. thinking
- d. thinked

**Ans: a. thought**

**Explanation:** "Thought" is the past tense form of the verb "think".

8. They \_\_\_\_\_ this from their trip.

- a. bring
- b. bringing
- c. brought
- d. bringed

**Ans: c. brought**

**Explanation:** "They" is the subject, and "brought" is the past tense of the verb "bring,"

9. Emily and Edward \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday.

- a. meeting
- b. meeted
- c. meet
- d. met

**Ans: d. met**

**Explanation:** The word "met" is the appropriate one to suggest that the action is completed in the past.



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10. The cat \_\_\_\_ on the tree, and the bird \_\_\_\_ away.

- a. jumping, flew
- b. jumped, flew
- c. jump, fly
- d. jumped, flying

**Ans: b. jumped, flew**

**Explanation:** "Jumped, flew" is the correct choice to maintain the past tense consistency in the sentence.

11. Barbara \_\_\_\_ the whole cake last night.

- a. ate
- b. eat
- c. ated
- d. eating

**Ans: a. ate**

**Explanation:** "Ate" is the past tense form of the verb "eat," which indicates that Barbara consumed the entire cake last night.

12. We \_\_\_\_ very happy together.

- a. being
- b. was
- c. be
- d. were

**Ans: d. were**

**Explanation:** "Were" is the correct past tense verb form that is suitable for the first person plural subject "We".



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13. The children in the park \_\_\_\_ hide and seek.

- a. were playing
- b. was playing
- c. playing
- d. was played

**Ans: a. were playing**

**Explanation:** "Were playing" is the correct past continuous tense form of the verb "play" for the third person plural subject "the children."

14. I \_\_\_\_ the book which you gave me on my birthday.

- a. reading
- b. readed
- c. were reading
- d. was reading

**Ans: d. was reading**

**Explanation:** "Was reading" is the correct past continuous tense form of the verb "read" for the subject "I".

15. Ron \_\_\_\_ his room when he heard the noise.

- a. was cleaning
- b. clean
- c. cleaning
- d. were cleaning

**Ans: a. was cleaning**

**Explanation:** Ron, the singular subject, should be paired with the singular form of the verb "was cleaning" for the past continuous tense indicating an ongoing action that was interrupted by another event (hearing the noise).



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16. The students \_\_\_\_ on their assignments.

- a. was worked
- b. were working
- c. working
- d. was working

**Ans: b. were working**

**Explanation:** The subject "students" is a plural, we use "were" the plural form of the verb and "working" is the present participle form of the verb "to work".

17. The birds \_\_\_\_ in the sky.

- a. were flying
- b. flying
- c. was flying
- d. were fly

**Ans: a. were flying**

**Explanation:** Here, the subject "The birds" is plural we use "were". "Flying" is the correct past continuous tense form of the verb "fly".

18. What \_\_\_\_\_ he \_\_\_\_\_ in the backyard?

- a. were, doing
- b. was, doing
- c. was, do
- d. were, did

**Ans: b. was, doing**

**Explanation:** "Was, doing" is the correct past continuous tense of the verb "do" for the subject "he." This form indicates an ongoing action that was happening in the past.



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19. He \_\_\_\_\_ the internet till three o'clock .

- a. was using
- b. were using
- c. was use
- d. were use

**Ans: a. was using**

**Explanation:** "Was using" is the correct choice since the subject given, "He" is in third person singular form.

20. Yesterday at six, I \_\_\_\_\_ dinner.

- a. was prepare
- b. were prepare
- c. was preparing
- d. preparing

**Ans: c. was preparing**

**Explanation:** "Was preparing" is the correct past continuous tense of the verb "to prepare" for the subject "I."

21. I \_\_\_\_\_ guitar when he came home.

- a. practice
- b. were practice
- c. was practicing
- d. was practice

**Ans: c. was practicing**

**Explanation:** "Was practicing" is the correct past continuous tense of the verb "practice" for the subject "I" which indicates that I was engaged in the activity of playing the guitar when he came home.



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22. While Alan \_\_\_\_\_ in his room, his friends \_\_\_\_\_ in the pool.

- a. was working, were swimming
- b. were working, was swimming
- c. work, swim
- d. worked, swam

**Ans: a. was working, were swimming**

**Explanation:** 'Alan' is a singular subject, we use was and working for the past continuous form of the verb "work" and his 'friends' is plural subject, hence we use "were swimming".

23. Which verb tense is commonly used to express an action completed in the past?

- a. Present continuous tense
- b. Present perfect tense
- c. Simple past tense
- d. Future tense

**Ans: c. Simple past tense**

**Explanation:** The simple past tense is used for actions that happened at a specific point in the past and are not continuing into the present.

24. If you \_\_\_\_\_ to me, you would have got the job.

- a. had listened
- b. has listened
- c. listen
- d. listening

**Ans: a. had listened**

**Explanation:** "Had listened" is the correct past perfect tense form of the verb "listen" to indicate completed activities a long time ago.





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25. He \_\_\_\_ her somewhere before.

- a. had meeting
- b. had meet
- c. had metted
- d. had met

**Ans: d. had met**

**Explanation:** "Had met" is the correct past perfect tense form of the verb "meet" in the sentence to indicate completed activities a long time ago.

26. My brother ate all of the cake that our mom \_\_\_\_ for last Christmas.

- a. had bake
- b. have baking
- c. had baked
- d. bake

**Ans: c. had baked**

**Explanation:** "Had baked" is the correct past perfect tense form of the verb "bake" in the sentence to indicate completed activities a long time ago.

27. The waiter brought a drink that I \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. had ordering
- b. had order
- c. had ordered
- d. order

**Ans: c. had ordered**

**Explanation:** "Had ordered" is the correct past perfect tense form of the verb "order" in the sentence to indicate completed activities a long time ago.



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28. We felt sad that the movie \_\_\_\_ already \_\_\_\_before we got there.

- a. had starts
- b. had, start
- c. had, starting
- d. had, started

**Ans: d. had, started**

**Explanation:** "Had" is the past perfect tense of the verb "to have," and "started" is the past participle form of the verb "to start" to indicate completed activities a long time ago.

29. My mom told me that we \_\_\_\_ Priyanka already but I don't think so.

- a. had meet
- b. had met
- c. had meeting
- d. had meeted

**Ans: b. had met**

**Explanation:** For past perfect tense, the structure is had + past participle. So, the correct form of the verb "meet" in the past participle is "met."

30. Kevin \_\_\_\_ home by the time I arrived.

- a. gone
- b. had go
- c. had going
- d. had gone

**Ans: d. had gone**

**Explanation:** "Kevin" is the subject, we use the structure "had gone" for the past perfect tense, indicating an action that occurred before another action in the past.



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31. Before the students started to write, the teacher \_\_\_\_ their mobile phones.

- a. had collected
- b. had collecting
- c. had collect
- d. had collects

**Ans: a. had collected**

**Explanation:** "Had collected" is the correct past perfect tense form of the verb "collect" in the sentence to indicate completed activities a long time ago.

32. Laura repaired her glasses because her brother \_\_\_\_ them.

- a. break
- b. had breaking
- c. had broken
- d. had break

**Ans: c. had broken**

**Explanation:** "Had broken" is the correct past perfect tense form of the verb "break" in the sentence to indicate completed activities a long time ago.

33. Loren \_\_\_\_ on the AC.

- a. turn
- b. had turn
- c. had turned
- d. had turning

**Ans: c. had turned**

**Explanation:** "Had turned" is the correct past perfect tense form of the verb "turn" in the sentence to indicate completed activities a long time ago.



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34. When do we use the past perfect tense?

- a. To describe ongoing actions happening in the past
- b. To indicate completed activities a long time ago.
- c. To talk about future plans
- d. To describe habits or routines

**Ans: b. To indicate completed activities a long time ago.**

35. Which sentence correctly uses the past perfect tense?

- a. She finishes her homework before she goes to bed.
- b. He had already eaten breakfast when he arrived at work.
- c. They are playing outside after they finished their dinner.
- d. We will have lunch after we finish our work.

**Ans: b. He had already eaten breakfast when he arrived at work.**

**Explanation:** The sentence "He had already eaten breakfast when he arrived at work" correctly uses the past perfect tense ("had eaten") to indicate an action completed before another point in the past ("arrived at work").

36. Her brother \_\_\_ always \_\_\_ her from strangers.

- a. had, protecting
- b. had, been protecting
- c. had, been protected
- d. had, been protect

**Ans: b. had, been protecting**

**Explanation:** The correct verb tense to convey this meaning is the past perfect continuous tense, formed with "had been" + the present participle (protecting) of the main verb (protect).



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37. They \_\_\_\_ the overall budget of the party last night.

- a. had been calculate
- b. have calculating
- c. had calculate
- d. had been calculating

**Ans: d. had been calculating**

**Explanation:** "Had been calculating" is past perfect continuous tense, that refers to a past action (calculating the overall budget) that ended at a specified time (yesterday night).

38. \_\_\_\_ he \_\_\_\_ from fever due to the change in the climate?

- a. Had, suffer
- b. Had, been suffer
- c. Had, been suffering
- d. Had, suffering

**Ans: c. Had, been suffering**

**Explanation:** The past perfect continuous tense, "Had been suffering" is used to describe an ongoing action that started in the past and continued up to another point in the past.

39. John \_\_\_\_ the job offered by the MNC in Cambridge.

- a. had rejected
- b. had been reject
- c. had rejecting
- d. had been rejected

**Ans: a. had rejected**

**Explanation:** "Had rejected", past perfect tense is the correct choice to convey that John's rejection of the job offer happened before another point in the past.



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40. Asha was completely exhausted as she \_\_\_\_\_ continuously for three days.
- had been travelled
  - had been travelling
  - had travelling
  - had been travel

**Ans: b. had been travelling**

**Explanation:** "Had been travelling" is the correct choice to convey that Asha's continuous action of travelling occurred before another point in the past, leading to her exhaustion.

41. George was angry because he \_\_\_\_\_ for them the whole day.
- had waiting
  - had been wait
  - had been waiting
  - had been waited

**Ans: c. had been waiting**

**Explanation:** "Had been waiting" is the correct choice to convey that George's continuous action of waiting occurred before another point in the past, leading to his anger.

42. \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ at the railway station for over two hours when the train finally arrived?
- Hadn't, been waiting
  - Hadn't, waiting
  - Hadn't, been wait
  - Hadn't, been waited

**Ans: a. Hadn't, been waiting**

**Explanation:** "Hadn't" is the contraction of "had not" and "been waiting" is the present perfect continuous, which indicates an ongoing action that started in the past and continued up to a certain point in the past.



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43. How long \_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ there to meet the manager?

- a. had, stand
- b. had, been standed
- c. had, been stand
- d. had, been standing

**Ans: d. had, been standing**

**Explanation:** "Had been standing" is used to indicate an action that started in the past, continued for a duration, and was still ongoing at a specific point in the past.

44. I \_\_\_\_\_ the meal when Jon entered the room.

- a. had been eat
- b. had eating
- c. had been eating
- d. had been ate

**Ans: c. had been eating**

**Explanation:** "Had been eating" is the correct choice to convey that the action of eating was ongoing before Jon entered the room.

45. He \_\_\_\_\_ there for seven years before he left the job.

- a. had been working
- b. had working
- c. had works
- d. had been worked

**Ans: a. had been working**

**Explanation:** "Had been working" is the past perfect continuous tense, indicating an ongoing action that occurred before a specific point in the past.



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46. Which sentence correctly uses the past continuous tense to indicate an action that was ongoing at a past time?

- a. She has eaten breakfast before going to school.
- b. They were playing football when it started raining.
- c. He will be studying for his exam tomorrow.
- d. We have been waiting for hours at the bus stop.

**Ans: b. They were playing football when it started raining.**

**Explanation:** This sentence indicates that the action of playing football was ongoing when it started raining.

47. Which of the following sentences uses the past perfect continuous tense correctly?

- a. She danced all night at the party.
- b. He had been working on his project since morning.
- c. They had traveled to Europe last summer.
- d. I had eaten dinner when the phone rang.

**Ans: b. He had been working on his project since morning.**

**Explanation:** In this sentence, "He had been working" indicates the action of working on the project was in progress for a duration of time before a specific point in the past.

48. When I got home, my dog \_\_\_\_\_ in the yard for hours.

- a. played
- b. has been playing
- c. had been playing
- d. was playing

**Ans: c. had been playing**

**Explanation:** "Had been playing" is the past perfect continuous tense, indicating an ongoing action that occurred before a specific point in the past.