



Grammar Tasks

This is a set of tasks for use in the Basic Grammar Class. Although they only really make sense when used with the other materials from the course, you can use them as a quick test as the answers are given below.

Part (1) Tasks

Task (1)

See Units 1,2,3

All the English here is taken from students' work, both written and spoken. Can you spot the errors and correct them?

- (1) The aim of the IRA was for Northern Ireland to get the religious and political freedom from Britain.
- (2) This year's Miss World is coming from Australia.
- (3) (Early morning News broadcast) Sadly, the theatre is pulled down today to make way for a new shopping centre.
- (4) It is really difficult to find a suitable accommodation in Konstanz.
- (5) Which group are you belonging to?
- (6) Here's another news.
- (7) (Planning a radio programme) Last time we took 3 listeners' letters. I think we only take 2 this time.
- (8) Nowadays people are not believing in ghosts.

Task (2)

See Units 1, 2, 3, 4

As above. Can you spot the errors and correct them?

- (1) This book has been first published in 1900.
- (2) The public interest has been aroused by the situation in Poland.
- (3) This is a film about the nature in Alaska.
- (4) Tomorrow is going to be sunny and dry. And that is the end of the weather forecast.
- (5) This is the first time I woke up so early.
- (6) I'm not sure yet but I think I travel around a bit in the holidays.
- (7) Every year she's doing her Christmas shopping in London.
- (8) The exam requirements include a good knowledge of English language.
- (9) In the last few years a lot of immigrants came to work in Germany.
- (10) The Edinburgh Festival has become famous many years ago.

Task (3)

See Units 1,3,4,5,

Put a circle round the number of the correct answer

(1)

When I was young

- a) I believed in dragons
- b) I had believed in dragons
- c) I was believing in dragons
- d) I have believed in dragons

(2)

At the moment

- a) I have been living in the students' hostel
- b) I live in the students' hostel
- c) I'm living in the students' hostel
- d) I have lived in the students' hostel

(3)

- a) This was the first time I've been here
- b) This is the first time I've been here
- c) This is the first time I'm here
- d) This was the first time I'm here

(4)

- a) Before I came to Konstanz I have lived in Dortmund
- b) Before I've come to Konstanz I have lived in Dortmund
- c) Before I came to Konstanz I lived in Dortmund
- d) Before I came to Konstanz I've been living in Dortmund

5)

- a) For several years now I'm living in Konstanz
- b) For several years now I've lived in Konstanz
- c) Since several years now I've lived in Konstanz
- d) For several years now I lived in Konstanz

6)

Let me out, would you.

- a) I think I'll be sick
- b) I think I'm being sick
- c) I think I'm sick
- d) I think I'm going to be sick

Task (4)

See all units

Here are some sentences for translation, taken from a variety of texts used in Translation class. The words in (brackets) are intended simply to provide a context. You do not have to translate them.

- (1) (Und wir berieten, was wir tun sollten mit dem Kind, und da hat sie gesagt): Ich behalts. Ich färbe ihm die Haare blond.
- (2) Wo bist du die letzten acht Tage gewesen?
- (3) Wo bist du vorige Woche gewesen?
- (4) Er hat seinem Nachbarn längst vergeben, aber er hat ihn lange gehasst.
- (5) Das studentische Leben ist schwer!
- (6) Wann sind Sie in die Partei eingetreten?
- (7) Wir erleben gegenwärtig eine Kultivierung der Furcht.
- (8) Er arbeitet nun schon seit heute morgen um acht.
- (9) Eine Einführung in die Linguistik.
- (10) Das schreibe ich mir auf.
- (11) Kommst du morgen?
- (12) In eine bis zwei Stunden ist alles vorbei.
- (13) Am Freitag lässt er sich den Zahn ziehen.
- (14) Er sagte, sein Name sei Ashe, aber Lime wusste, dass er log.
- (15) Er öffnete eine abgegriffene Aktentasche und wühlte darin herum, bis er fand, was er suchte.
- (16) Die Geschichte der schottischen Gesellschaft ist lang, aber interessant.

Part (2) Answers

Task (1)

These corrected versions are still not always elegant and totally idiomatic, but they are grammatically correct.

- (1) The IRA want Northern Ireland to get religious and political freedom from Britain.
- (2) This year's Miss World comes from new Zealand.
- (3) Sadly, the theatre is going to be/ is to be/ pulled down today.
- (4) It is really difficult to find suitable accommodation in Konstanz.
- (5) Which group do you belong to?
- (6) Here's more news.
- (7) Last time we took three listeners' letters. I think we'll only take two this time.
- (8) Nowadays people do not believe in ghosts.

Task (2)

- (1) This book was first published in 1900.
- (2) Public interest has been aroused by the situation in Poland.
- (3) This is a film about nature / better: the environment/ in America.
- (4) Tomorrow will be sunny and dry.
- (5) This is the first time I've wakened up / woken up/ so early.
- (6) I'm not sure yet but I think I'll go to Israel on holiday.
- (7) Every year she does her Christmas shopping in London.
- (8) The exam requirements include a good knowledge of English.
- (9) In the last few years a lot of immigrants have come to work in Germany.
- (10)The Edinburgh Festival became famopus many years ago.

Task (3)

- 1a
- 2c
- 3b
- 4c
- 5b
- 6d

Task (4)

- (1) I'll keep / I'm going to keep/ the child/ him/her. I'll dye / I'm going to dye/ his/her hair blonde.
- (2) Where have you been for the last eight days / the last week?
- (3) Where were you last week?
- (4) They have an exaggerated fear of ageing.
- (5) He forgave his neighbour long ago, but he hated him for a long time.
- (6) Student life is hard!
- (7) When did you join the Party?
- (8) At the moment we are experiencing a cultivation of fear.
- (9) He's been working since eight this morning.
- (10) An introduction to Linguistics.
- (11) I'll make / I'm going to make / a note of that.
- (12) Will you come / Are you going to come / Are you coming tomorrow?
- (13) In a couple of hours it'll all be over.
- (14) He's having his tooth out on Friday.
- (15) He said his name was Ashe, but L. knew he was lying.
- (16) He opened a worn attaché case and rummaged around in it till he found what he was looking for.
- (17) The history of Scottish society is long, but interesting.

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