



B2 -

A day in the life of a film director

Review and refine the: present simple, present continuous, present perfect simple, past simple, and past continuous tense aspects

Warm-up questions

1. Do you enjoy watching films or series?
2. Have you ever thought about what it's like to be a director?
3. What does a director do every day?
4. What kind of projects are directors usually working on?
5. Have you ever seen a behind-the-scenes video?



Grammar review table

Tense	Use	Structure	Example
Present simple	Habit or routine	Subject + base verb	<i>I usually wake up at 6:00 a.m.</i>
Present continuous	Action happening now	Subject + to be + verbING	<i>We are filming an action scene.</i>
Present perfect	Past action with present result	Subject + have/has + past participle	<i>I have directed over 20 films.</i>
Past simple	Completed past action	Subject + verb (in the past)	<i>We filmed a romantic comedy.</i>
Past continuous	Background past action	Subject + was/were + verbING	<i>We were shooting when tourists walked in.</i>

Lights, Camera, Chaos!

My name is Lara Mendoza, and I'm a film director. I usually wake up at 6:00 a.m. and go over the day's shooting schedule. I drink a strong coffee and head to set.

Right now, we are filming an action scene for a new thriller in Cape Town. The weather is terrible, so we are working under tents with backup lights. I have directed over 20 films in my career, but this one is the most intense so far.

Last year, we filmed a romantic comedy in Italy. It was beautiful. While we were shooting, a group of tourists kept walking into the background! Being a director means making hundreds of decisions each day. But I love it.



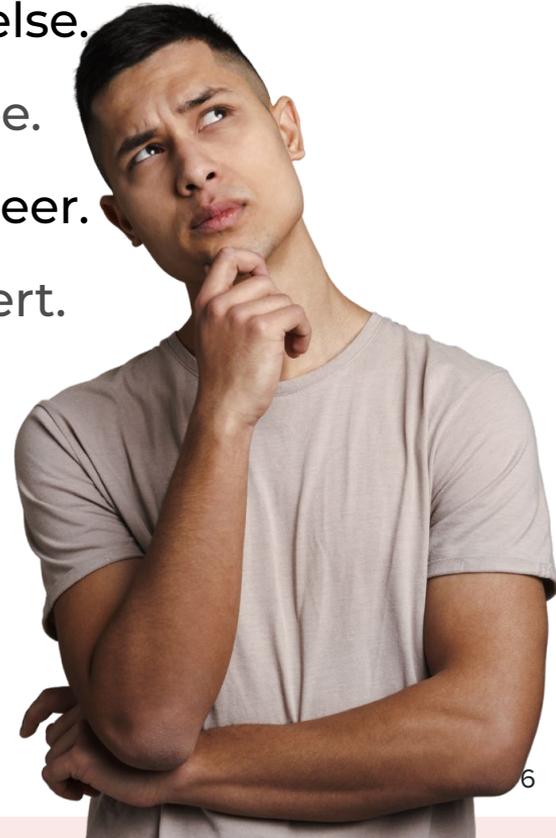
Comprehension questions



1. What time does Lara usually start her day? (*present simple*)
2. What is she doing now? (*present continuous*)
3. How many films has she directed? (*present perfect*)
4. What did she film last year? (*past simple*)
5. What was happening when the tourists interrupted the scene? (*past continuous*)

Fill in the blanks with the correct tense

1. Lara usually _____ (arrive) on set before anyone else.
2. Right now, the crew _____ (set) up the next scene.
3. She _____ (make) over ten action films in her career.
4. Last week, they _____ (shoot) a scene in the desert.
5. While they _____ (film), a sandstorm started.



Speaking task — interview roleplay



In pairs: One student is a talk show host, the other is a film director.

Host asks questions using a variety of tenses.

Gap fill activity — “Behind the Scenes”

1. Every morning, I usually _____ before work. (Use Present Simple)
2. Right now, I _____. (Use Present Continuous)
3. I _____ many exciting things this year. (Use Present Perfect)
4. Last weekend, I _____. (Use Past Simple)
5. While I _____, something strange happened. (Use Past Continuous)
6. Sometimes I _____ when I’m under pressure. (Use Present Simple)
7. At this moment, my friends _____, but I’m working! (Use Present Continuous)
8. I _____ my biggest mistake during a project last month. (Use Past Simple)
9. I _____ to improve my skills since January. (Use Present Perfect)
10. While I _____ yesterday, someone surprised me. (Use Past Continuous)

Identify the tense aspect

1. Lara is editing the final scene right now.
2. She woke up at 5 a.m. yesterday to review the script.
3. They were filming when the rain started.
4. I have worked with this actor on three different films.
5. She always drinks coffee before a shoot.
6. We are not using the original location anymore.
7. He directed a documentary about climate change last year.
8. I have never filmed in such extreme weather conditions.
9. While the crew was packing, the camera broke.
10. He usually takes the final shot himself.



Tense transformation activity

Instructions: Transform each base sentence into the following tenses:

1. Present simple
2. Present continuous
3. Present perfect
4. Past simple
5. Past continuous



Sentences to transform:

1. He writes a blog.
2. They travel to different cities.
3. I watch documentaries.
4. She directs short films.
5. We talk to famous actors.

Grammar confessional

Use the following prompts in a story. You must use 'past simple', 'past continuous', and 'present perfect simple' in your stories.

Story prompts:

1. Tell us about a time you made a terrible mistake.
2. Describe your most successful moment this year.





Thank you for your support.

YouTube: @elucidatedenglish