

PRESENT TENSES

A Complete this text by putting the verbs in brackets into the most suitable present forms.

The origins of consumerism ⁽¹⁾ _____ (*go*) back to the 19th century, triggered by the Industrial Revolution. Since then, the world ⁽²⁾ _____ (*consume*) at a higher rate than ever. Shopping habits ⁽³⁾ _____ (*change*), shopping centres ⁽⁴⁾ _____ (*proliferate*) and consumption ⁽⁵⁾ _____ (*take over*).

The effects of the consumer society ⁽⁶⁾ _____ (*be*) very harmful not only to the individual but also to the environment. As for the people, consumerism ⁽⁷⁾ _____ (*affect*) them both psychologically and spiritually since it ⁽⁸⁾ _____ (*contribute*) to a detachment from nature and their inner selves. As far as the environment ⁽⁹⁾ _____ (*be*) concerned, the current levels of consumption ⁽¹⁰⁾ _____ (*prove*) to be destructive and unsustainable. Although we ⁽¹¹⁾ _____ (*already, come*) to that conclusion, many more steps ⁽¹²⁾ _____ (*have to*) be taken at a global scale in order to reverse the trend. If we ⁽¹³⁾ _____ (*not act*) now, we ⁽¹⁴⁾ _____ (*not can*) expect a bright future for our planet.

B Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect simple or continuous. You may need the negative forms.

- _____ you _____ (*be*) to the new shopping centre?
- I'm tired. I _____ (*window shop*) the whole morning.
- She _____ (*buy*) three pairs of shoes so far.
- I _____ (*phone*) you about ten times today. I _____ (*try*) to get through to you all day.
- There's no more cake. Who _____ (*eat*) it?
- We _____ (*not finish*) our group work yet.
- I don't know much Mandarin; I _____ (*not learn*) it very long.
- _____ she _____ (*see*) those advertisements?
- How long _____ they _____ (*play*) tennis? They're keen, but obviously inexperienced.
- How long _____ you _____ (*have*) your car?

C Translate the following statements. Use the most suitable present tenses.

1. Acabei de ler um artigo interessante sobre o consumismo.

2. Eles têm vivido nos Estados Unidos desde 2000.

3. Há quanto tempo é que vocês se conhecem?

4. Estou a fazer um bolo para o jantar.

5. Tu não tens estudado muito ultimamente, pois não?