

IBPS Clerk Prelims 2026

Tenses - Practice Set 2 of 5

 **Focus: Past Tenses**

 **Time: 15 Minutes**

 **Total: 25 Questions**

 Section A: Error Detection - 10 Qs

 Section B: Fill in the Blanks - 10 Qs

 Section C: Sentence Improvement - 5 Qs

Instructions

- ✓ This practice set contains 25 easy to moderate questions on PAST TENSES
- ✓ Each question carries 1 mark (No negative marking for practice)
- ✓ Try to complete all questions within 15 minutes
- ✓ Rules covered: Past Indefinite, Past Continuous, Past Perfect, Past Perfect Continuous
- ✓ After attempting all questions, check answers with detailed explanations
- ✓ Use the Performance Tracker to analyze your accuracy

SECTION A: Error Detection (Past Tenses)

10 Questions

Directions: Each sentence below contains an error related to Past Tenses. Identify the part that contains the error. (A, B, C, or D). If no error, mark E.

Question 1

Easy

(A) I (B) go (C) to the cinema (D) yesterday. (E) No error

- ☐ A. I
- ☐ B. go
- ☐ C. to the cinema
- ☐ D. yesterday
- ☐ E. No error

Question 2

Easy

(A) She (B) was reading (C) a book (D) when I was calling her. (E) No error

- ☐ A. She
- ☐ B. was reading
- ☐ C. a book
- ☐ D. when I was calling her
- ☐ E. No error

Question 3

Medium

(A) When I reached (B) the station, (C) the train left (D) already. (E) No error

- ☐ A. When I reached
- ☐ B. the station,
- ☐ C. the train left
- ☐ D. already
- ☐ E. No error

Question 4**Medium**

(A) I (B) have seen (C) him (D) yesterday. (E) No error

- ☐ A. I
- ☐ B. have seen
- ☐ C. him
- ☐ D. yesterday
- ☐ E. No error

Question 5**Medium**

(A) She (B) had been working (C) here (D) since five years before she quit. (E) No error

- ☐ A. She
- ☐ B. had been working
- ☐ C. here
- ☐ D. since five years before she quit
- ☐ E. No error

Question 6**Medium**

(A) They (B) were playing (C) cricket (D) when it was raining. (E) No error

- ☐ A. They
- ☐ B. were playing
- ☐ C. cricket
- ☐ D. when it was raining
- ☐ E. No error

Question 7

Easy

(A) He (B) was knowing (C) the answer (D) to the question. (E) No error

- ☐ A. He
- ☐ B. was knowing
- ☐ C. the answer
- ☐ D. to the question
- ☐ E. No error

Question 8

Medium

(A) I (B) had gone (C) to the party (D) last night. (E) No error

- ☐ A. I
- ☐ B. had gone
- ☐ C. to the party
- ☐ D. last night
- ☐ E. No error

Question 9

Medium

(A) He (B) was owning (C) a car (D) when he was young. (E) No error

- ☐ A. He
- ☐ B. was owning
- ☐ C. a car
- ☐ D. when he was young
- ☐ E. No error

Question 10 Hard

(A) I (B) had been waiting (C) for two hours (D) before the bus had arrived. (E) No error

- ☐ A. I
- ☐ B. had been waiting
- ☐ C. for two hours
- ☐ D. before the bus had arrived
- ☐ E. No error

SECTION B: Fill in the Blanks (Past Tenses)

10 Questions

Directions: Choose the correct verb form to fill in the blank.

Question 11 Easy

I _____ to the cinema yesterday.

- ☐ A. go
- ☐ B. went
- ☐ C. have gone
- ☐ D. had gone

Question 12 Easy

When I arrived, they _____ dinner.

- ☐ A. have
- ☐ B. had
- ☐ C. were having
- ☐ D. are having

Question 13**Medium**

The train _____ before I reached the station.

- ☐ A. left
- ☐ B. has left
- ☐ C. had left
- ☐ D. was leaving

Question 14**Easy**

She _____ a book when I entered the room.

- ☐ A. read
- ☐ B. was reading
- ☐ C. has read
- ☐ D. had read

Question 15**Medium**

I _____ him yesterday.

- ☐ A. meet
- ☐ B. have met
- ☐ C. met
- ☐ D. had met

Question 16**Medium**

She _____ here for five years before she quit.

- ☐ A. worked
- ☐ B. had been working
- ☐ C. was working
- ☐ D. has worked

Question 17**Easy**

They _____ cricket when it started raining.

- ☐ A. played
- ☐ B. were playing
- ☐ C. had played
- ☐ D. have played

Question 18**Easy**

He _____ the answer to the question.

- ☐ A. was knowing
- ☐ B. knew
- ☐ C. had known
- ☐ D. has known

Question 19**Medium**

I _____ never _____ such a beautiful place before.

- ☐ A. have, seen
- ☐ B. had, seen
- ☐ C. did, see
- ☐ D. was, seeing

Question 20**Medium**

When the guests arrived, she _____ dinner.

- ☐ A. cooked
- ☐ B. was cooking
- ☐ C. had cooked
- ☐ D. has cooked

SECTION C: Sentence Improvement**5 Questions**

Directions: Improve the underlined part of the sentence.

Question 21**Easy**

I go to the market yesterday.

- ☐ A. go
- ☐ B. went
- ☐ C. have gone
- ☐ D. had gone

Question 22**Easy**

She is reading a book when I called her.

- ☐ A. is reading
- ☐ B. was reading
- ☐ C. has read
- ☐ D. had read

Question 23**Medium**

When I reached the station, the train left already.

- ☐ A. left
- ☐ B. has left
- ☐ C. had left
- ☐ D. was leaving

Question 24**Medium**

I have seen him yesterday.

- ☐ A. have seen
- ☐ B. saw
- ☐ C. had seen
- ☐ D. was seeing

Question 25

Easy

He was knowing the answer.

- ☐ A. was knowing
- ☐ B. knew
- ☐ C. had known
- ☐ D. has known

IGNITE EXAMS



Answer Key with Detailed Explanations

SECTION A: Error Detection

Q1. Answer: B. go

☒ B

"Yesterday" past time है, इसलिए Past Simple "went" चाहिए।

📌 Yesterday, ago, last → Past Indefinite.

Q2. Answer: D. when I was calling her

☒ D

Past Continuous के साथ Simple Past का use करें। Correct: "when I called her".

📌 while/when + Past Continuous, Simple Past.

Q3. Answer: C. the train left

☒ C

दो past events में से पहले वाला Past Perfect में आता है। Correct: "the train had left".

📌 Past Perfect for the earlier action.

Q4. Answer: B. have seen

☒ B

"Yesterday" past time है, इसलिए Past Simple "saw" चाहिए।

📌 Present Perfect का use past time के साथ नहीं होता।

Q5. Answer: D. since five years

✓ D

"Five years" period of time है, इसलिए "for" use करें।

📌 For + period, Since + point.

Q6. Answer: D. when it was raining

✓ D

Past Continuous के साथ Simple Past का use करें। Correct: "when it started raining".

📌 While + Past Continuous, Simple Past.

Q7. Answer: B. was knowing

✓ B

"Know" is a stative verb → continuous form नहीं आता। "knew" सही है।

📌 Stative verbs (know, believe, understand) continuous में नहीं आते।

Q8. Answer: B. had gone

✓ B

"Last night" past time है, इसलिए Past Simple "went" चाहिए।

📌 Past Perfect का use बिना दूसरे event के नहीं होता।

Q9. Answer: B. was owning

✓ B

"Own" is a stative verb → "owned" सही है।

📌 Stative verbs of possession (own, have) continuous में नहीं आते।

Q10. Answer: D. before the bus had arrived

✓ D

"Before" के बाद Simple Past आता है, Past Perfect नहीं। Correct: "before the bus arrived".

📌 Before/after + Simple Past, Past Perfect.

SECTION B: Fill in the Blanks

Q11. Answer: B. went

✓ B

Yesterday → Past Simple.

Q12. Answer: C. were having

✓ C

Action in progress when another happened → Past Continuous.

Q13. Answer: C. had left

✓ C

Earlier action → Past Perfect.

Q14. Answer: B. was reading

✓ B

Action in progress when another happened → Past Continuous.

Q15. Answer: C. met

✓ C

Yesterday → Past Simple.

Q16. Answer: B. had been working

✓ B

Action continuing before another past action → Past Perfect Continuous.

Q17. Answer: B. were playing

☒ B

Action in progress when another happened → Past Continuous.

Q18. Answer: B. knew

☒ B

Know is stative → knew.

Q19. Answer: B. had, seen

☒ B

Experience before another past action → Past Perfect.

Q20. Answer: C. had cooked

☒ C

Action completed before another past action → Past Perfect.

SECTION C: Sentence Improvement

Q21. Answer: B. went

☒ B

Yesterday → went.

Q22. Answer: B. was reading

☒ B

When I called → was reading.

Q23. Answer: C. had left

☒ C

Earlier action → had left.

Q24. Answer: B. saw

☒ B

Yesterday → saw.

Q25. Answer: B. knew

☒ B

Know is stative → knew.



Performance Tracker

Section	Total	Correct	Wrong	Accuracy %
Section A (Error Detection)	10	___	___	___%
Section B (Fill in Blanks)	10	___	___	___%
Section C (Improvement)	5	___	___	___%
TOTAL	25	___	___	___%



Score Interpretation: 22-25: Excellent | 18-21: Good | 14-17: Average | Below 14: Need Improvement

Past Tenses Rules Covered

-  **Past Indefinite:** बीते हुए समय में पूरा हुआ काम (yesterday, ago, last)
-  **Past Continuous:** अतीत में एक निश्चित समय पर चल रहा काम (while, when)
-  **Past Perfect:** दो past events में से पहले वाला (before, after, already, by the time)
-  **Past Perfect Continuous:** अतीत में शुरू हुआ काम अतीत में ही कुछ समय तक चला
-  **Stative Verbs:** know, believe, love, hate, own, belong → continuous में नहीं आते
-  **Sequence of Tenses:** Past Perfect for earlier action, Past Simple for later action

IBPS Clerk Prelims 2026 - Tenses Practice Set 2 (Past Tenses)

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