

Teacher support

Answer Key: Getting to know Tense Buster V9

Before you use a new program with your students, it is essential that you know both the contents and the way the program works. Try this exercise which has been designed to help teachers get to know Tense Buster in detail.

Tense Buster comes at five levels from Elementary to Advanced. First fill the gaps below in the table of units. Then work through a unit or two of Tense Buster to answer the ten questions beneath.

Elementary	Lower Int.	Intermediate	Upper Int.	Advanced
Am, is, are	Simple present	The passive	Past continuous	Reported Speech
Simple present	Simple past	'Will' and 'going to'	Conditionals	Phrasal verbs
Negatives	Present perfect	Question tags	Adjectives & adverbs	Nouns
Questions	Comparisons	Equality	Present perfect	Past perfect
I, me, my	Present continuous	Relative clauses	Modals	The passive
A, an, the	Prepositions	Conditionals	The future	Articles
Countable?				
Some & any				
Have got (<i>Intl version only</i>)				

1. How can you get your score for an exercise after completing it?

Click on the Marking/Scoring button at the top of the screen.

2. What happens to the Marking/Scoring button after you have completed an exercise and seen the correct answers (in most exercises)?

It changes to a feedback button. You can click on this to see feedback for the answers you got wrong or missed. Sometimes feedback is for the whole exercise.

3. In Lower Intermediate, Simple Present, Introduction, how can you hear the passage read out?

Complete the exercise. Click on Marking/Scoring and it will play automatically.

4. Which details are recorded on the Progress, Your scores screen?

The unit name, the exercise name, the score, the date the exercise was done and the time spent on the exercise.

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5. Some exercises have a choice of two different marking styles. What are they? How are they different?

'As I work' – the learner sees whether each answer is correct as soon as they write it and move to the next question. 'At the end' – the learner completes all the questions and then clicks the Marking/Scoring button.

6. For what purposes can students use the Scratch Pad? List at least two.

As the Scratch Pad is saved for them automatically, they can make notes. They can copy information from websites. They can do extended writing activities which they can print.

7. How do you switch from one level of Tense Buster to another?

From the Unit screen, click Restart at the top of the screen. Then click on the level you want.

8. Describe the Pronunciation exercise in the Reported Speech unit. Can you think of some ways you can use it with your students?

It is a jazz chant. You could, for example, play the chant in class through speakers as a model and have the class repeat each line as a pronunciation drill.

9. How can you create a random test from all the units in a level? (Hint: go to the Unit screen.)

On the Unit screen, click the Test button. Then check From all topics, and choose the number of questions using the slider. Then click Create test.

10. Make brief notes explaining the rationale of the progression of exercises in a unit. For example, what are the functions of the Introduction, Practice, Test and Vocab sections?

Briefly, the *Introduction* is a presentation of the language in context. It encourages the learner to make their own theories about how the grammar point works. These theories are confirmed or corrected in the *Rule*. *Practice* exercises provide controlled practice in the grammar area. The *Pronunciation* activity is linked in some way to the grammar area, and the *Vocab* sections help learners develop their vocab strategies in the context of words from the unit. *Do you understand?* is a concept checking activity and *And now?* provides freer practice activities. The *Test* enables learners to gauge their progress.