✓ VERBAL TENSES 1 – Put the verbs in the brackets in the correct form –*present simple*, *present perfect* or *past simple* – sometimes in their passive form:

Barilla …… (**1.** originally/to be established) in 1877 as a bread and pasta shop in Parma, Italy. It …… (**2.** to rank) as one of today's top Italian food groups. Barilla …… (**3.** to lead) in the global pasta business, the pasta sauces business in continental Europe, the bakery products business in Italy and the crispbread business in Scandinavia.

The history of the company …… (**4.** to be) the history of the Barilla family, at the head of the Group for four generations, today with the brothers Guido, Luca and Paolo. In 1971, for family reasons and linked to the historical and social period, the brothers Pietro and Gianni Barilla …… (**5.** to decide) to sell the company to the American multinational WR GRACE. Barilla …… (**6.** to be managed) by the Grace company until 1979. From the time of the sale and for the following 8 years, Pietro Barilla's fixed idea …… (**7.** to be) how to buy back the company. In 1979, creating a special case history in the world of business, Pietro Barilla …… (**8.** to succeed) in buying back the company, which since then …… (**9.** to remain/always) in the hands of the Italian family.

The Group …… (**10.** to employ) more than 8,000 people and in 2011 …… (**11.** to have) net sales of more than euro 3.9 billion.

Always oriented toward proper diet through exceptionally flavored and nutritionally balanced products intended for daily use, Barilla …… (**12.** to become) popular worldwide due to its attention to the quality of its products, the result of significant investments in research, innovation and technology, as well as communication.

Barilla …… (**13.** to own) 54 production facilities – 14 in Italy and 40 outside Italy, of which 9 …… (**14.** to be) directly managed mills that …… (**15.** to provide) most of the raw materials for the production of its pasta and bakery products.

Barilla …… (**16.** to export) to more than 125 countries. Every year more than 2,500,000 tons of food products, with the brands Barilla, Mulino Bianco, Voiello, Pavesi, Wasa, Harry's (France and Russia), Lieken Urkorn and Golden Toast (Germany), Academia Barilla, Misko (Greece), Filiz (Turkey), Yemina and Vesta (Mexico), …… (**17.** to be featured) on dining tables all over the world. The Number1 brand, a Group company engaged in logistics activities, …… (**18.** to stand) alongside the product brands.

Barilla …… (**19.** to become) one of the world's most esteemed food companies and …… (**20.** to be recognized) worldwide as a symbol of Italian know-how by respecting its longstanding traditional principles and values, considering employees a fundamental asset and developing leading-edge production systems.

© 2025 by Vaccarelli F., F. Rosati – DISCLAIMER: Please note that this is copyrighted material, those who access this page are permitted only to download the material for personal use.

✓ **VERBAL TENSES 2 – Put the verbs in the brackets in the correct form –*present simple*, *present perfect* or *past simple* – sometimes in their passive voice:**

The European Union …… (**1.** to be) a unique economic and political union between 27 EU countries that together …… (**2**. to cover) much of the continent. The predecessor of the EU …… (**3**. to be created) in the aftermath of the Second World War. The first steps …… (**4.** to be) to foster economic cooperation: the idea being that countries that trade with one another become economically interdependent and so more likely to avoid conflict.

The result …… (**5**. to be) the European Economic Community (EEC), created in 1958, and initially increasing economic cooperation between six countries: Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

Since then, 22 other members …… (**6.** to join) and a huge single market (also known as the 'internal' market) …… (**7**. to be created) and …… (**8**. to continue) to develop towards its full potential.

On 31 January 2020 the United Kingdom …… (**9.** to leave) the European Union.

What …… (**10.** to begin) as a purely economic union …… (**11.** to evolve) into an organization spanning policy areas, from climate, environment and health to external relations and security, justice and migration. A name change from the European Economic Community (EEC) to the European Union (EU) in 1993 …… (**12.** to reflect) this.

The EU …… (**13.** to deliver) more than half a century of peace, stability and prosperity, …… (**14.** to help) raise living standards and …… (**15.** to launch) a single European currency: the euro. More than 340 million EU citizens in 19 countries now …… (**16**. to use) it as their currency and …… (**17**. to enjoy) its benefits.

Thanks to the abolition of border controls between EU countries, people can travel freely throughout most of the continent. And it …… (**18.** to become) much easier to live, work and travel abroad in Europe. All EU citizens …… (**19.** to have) the right and freedom to choose in which EU country they …… (**20.** to want) to study, work or retire.

Transparent and democratic institutions
The EU …… (**21**. to remain) focused on making its governing institutions more transparent and democratic. Decisions …… (**22**. to be taken) as openly as possible and as closely as possible to the citizen.

More powers …… (**23.** to be given) to the directly elected European Parliament, while national parliaments …… (**24.** to play) a greater role, working alongside the European institutions.

The EU …… (**25.** to be governed) by the principle of representative democracy, with citizens directly represented at Union level in the European Parliament and Member States represented in the European Council and the Council of the EU.

© 2025 by Vaccarelli F., F. Rosati – DISCLAIMER: Please note that this is copyrighted material, those who access this page are permitted only to download the material for personal use.

✓ **VERBAL TENSES 3 – Put the verbs in the brackets in the correct form –*present simple*, *present continuous*, *present perfect* or *past simple* – sometimes in their passive voice:**

Fake news or information disorder …… (**1**. to be) false or misleading information (misinformation, including disinformation, propaganda, and hoaxes) presented as news. Fake news often …….. (**2.** to have) the aim of damaging the reputation of a person or entity, or making money through advertising revenue. Although false news …… (**3.** always/to be spread) throughout history, the term fake news …….. (**4.** first/to be used) in the 1890s when sensational reports in newspapers …… (**5.** to be) common. Nevertheless, the term …….. (**6**. not/to have) a fixed definition and …….. (**7.** to be applied broadly) to any type of false information presented as news. It …… (**8.** also/to be used) by high-profile people to apply to any news unfavorable to them. Further, disinformation …… (**9.** to involve) spreading false information with harmful intent and …… (**10. /11.** sometimes / to be generated and propagated) by hostile foreign actors, particularly during elections. In some definitions, fake news …….. (**12.** to include) satirical articles misinterpreted as genuine, and articles that …… (**13.** to employ) sensationalist or clickbait headlines that …….. (**14.** not/to be supported) in the text. Because of this diversity of types of false news, researchers …… (**15.** to begin) to favour information disorder as a more neutral and informative term.

The prevalence of fake news …… (**16.** to increase) with the recent rise of social media, especially the Facebook News Feed, and this misinformation …… (**17.** gradually/to seep) into the mainstream media. Several factors …… (**18.** to be implicated) in the spread of fake news, such as political polarization, post-truth politics, motivated reasoning, confirmation bias, and social media algorithms.

© 2025 by Vaccarelli F., F. Rosati – DISCLAIMER: Please note that this is copyrighted material, those who access this page are permitted only to download the material for personal use.