Exercises on Present Tenses in English for Visual and Performing Arts

EXERCISE 1 — Complete the texts below with the appropriate form of *present simple*, sometimes in its passive voice:

British Museum – Department of Greece and Rome - The Department of Greece and Rome at the British Museum …….. (1. to have) one of the most comprehensive collections of antiquities from the Classical world, with over 100,000 objects. These mostly …….. (2. to range) in date from the beginning of the Greek Bronze Age (about 3200 BC) to the reign of the Roman emperor Constantine in the fourth century AD, with some pagan survivals.
The Cycladic, Minoan and Mycenaean cultures …….. (3. to be represented), and the Greek collection …….. (4. to include) important sculpture from the Parthenon in Athens, as well as elements of two of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Mausoleum at Halikarnassos and the Temple of Artemis at Ephesos.
The department also …….. (5. to house) one of the widest-ranging collections of Italic and Etruscan antiquities and extensive groups of material from Cyprus. The collections of ancient jewellery and bronzes, Greek vases and Roman glass and silver …….. (6. to be) particularly important.

Department of Ancient Egypt and Sudan - The Department of Ancient Egypt and Sudan at the British Museum …….. (7. to house) an extensive collection of objects which …….. (8. to illustrate) the cultures of the Nile Valley, from the Neolithic period (about 10,000 BC) until the present day. The Department also …….. (9. to house) an important archive relating to Egyptology and Nubian Studies, and one of the leading research libraries in this subject area.
Alongside the permanent display, the collection, archive and library …….. (10. to be made) accessible through touring exhibitions, loans, by appointment and through Collection Online.
The Department's research staff …….. (11. to develop) exhibitions on aspects of the cultures of Egypt and Sudan, while also leading research on particular themes related to the collection, resulting in publications for both scholarly and other audiences. Fieldwork in Egypt and Sudan, often in collaboration with UK and international institutions, …….. (12. to form) part of this research. The Department also …….. (13. to provide) training programmes and research scholarships for scholars, curators and archaeologists from Egypt and Sudan.

EXERCISE 2 — Complete the passage about Peter Morgan with the correct form of *present simple* of these verbs:

not / to be	**to check**	**to get**	**to greet**	**to need**
not / to leave	**to say**	**to spend**	**to switch on**	
to take	**to travel**	**to want**	**to work**	

Peter Morgan ..... (1) for Electrosystems plc in London. He ..... (2) to work by train and underground from his home in Wimbledon. The journey ..... (3) 55 minutes door-to-door when the train ..... (4) late. When he ..... (5) to work, he ..... (6) his colleagues, ... (7) his computer and ..... (8) his emails. He ..... (9) at least nine hours a day in the office and ..... (10) before 7 o'clock. He ..... (11) 'If you ..... (12) to succeed in your career, you ..... (13) to show commitment'.

EXERCISE 3 – Put each verb into the *present simple* or *present continuous*:

1. We ..... (to spend) a lot of money on advertising this year.
2. Every year we ..... (to spend) over € 500,000 on raw materials.
3. I ..... (to enjoy) this conference – It's more interesting than last year.
4. I ..... (to enjoy) a glass of wine occasionally, but I ..... (not / to drink) very much.
5. Central banks always ..... (to raise) interest rates when inflation goes up.
6. The Federal Reserve ..... (to raise) rates quite slowly at the moment.
7. The sales report is my responsibility. Most of the time I ..... (to write) it.
8. This time Wu ..... (to write) the sales report – I'm away on holiday.
9. Look! They ..... (to sell) their new cell phone with a 10% discount!
10. Of course, in the winter we ..... (to sell) more coats, hats and scarves.
11. She is Czech – she ..... (to come) from Prague.
12. She ..... (to come) from Prague, so she may be late.

EXERCISE 4 — Complete the following text with the appropriate form of *simple present* or *present continuous*:

The **Google** brand …… (1. to grow) rapidly. According to the Millward Brown Brandz report, it …… (2. to hold) first place in the list of top 100 brands. In fact, the IT field …… (3. to dominate) the top-ten corporate brands. Google …… (4. to operate) websites at many international domains, the most popular being www.google.com, and …… (5. to generate) revenue by providing effective advertising opportunities. Google always …… (6. to focus) on the user, and consumers usually …… (7. to see) Google as quite trustworthy.
Nowadays, companies …… (8. to begin) to recognise that brands are amongst their most valuable assets. They …… (9. to understand) that brands …… (10. to become) ever more powerful in driving business growth. Strong brands …… (11. to generate) superior returns and protect businesses from risk. Google currently …… (12. to hold) the top position, but it has to keep innovating if it wants to remain number one. Blackberry and Apple are the two fastest-growing brands in the top 100, and China Mobile …… (13. to grow) steadily, too.

EXERCISE 5 — Complete this article about the magazine *Time Out* with the correct form of *present simple* or *present continuous* of these verbs:

to have (2x)	**not /to have**	**to investigate**
to look for	**to move**	**to own** **to provide**
to rely	**to try to**	**to want**

Time Out, the London entertainment magazine, …… (1) plans for expansion. It already …… (2) the monthly magazine *Paris Passion*, and now …… (3) beyond France to other markets such as Argentina and Japan. Tony Elliott, *Time Out*'s founder, says he …… (4) local people to initiate and run the magazines, as *Time Out*'s London office …… (5) the cash or management time. Elliott also …… (6) plans for the website, Timeout.com, which was launched in 1995 and …… (7) information about more than 30 cities. It …… (8) on advertising revenue and a small amount of money from ticket sales to survive. But as *Time Out* changes and expands, Tony Elliott …… (9) persuade advertisers in the printed version to take more space on the Internet site. Also, he …… (10) the possibility of charging visitors to the site for access to some information. Despite these expansion plans, Elliot says that a flotation on the stock market is out of the question. He …… (11.) to keep control of the business he has built up.