

# Tense consistency exercise

Complete the following sentences using an appropriate verb form.

1. If the company followed the quality guidelines, they ..... not land in trouble.

would  
will

2. The telephone ..... while I was having a bath.

rings  
rang  
is ringing

3. Since its conception in the early 1970s, the internet ..... in popularity.

grew  
grow  
has grown

4. If she had acted more responsibly, everything ..... all right.

would be

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would have been

5. Thousands of people ..... see the art exhibition before it closes on Friday.

will

would

6. Captain James Cook ..... by Hawaiian islanders in 1779 while he was on a visit to Alaska.

killed

had killed

was killed

7. I was terribly disappointed with my marks because I ..... really hard.

worked

had worked

8. The teacher started asking questions as soon as she ..... the lessons.

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finished  
has finished  
was finished

9. Everyone ..... that she would return safely.

hoped  
had hoped  
has hoped

10. The boy confessed that he ..... the money.

has taken  
had taken

## Answers

1. If the company followed the quality guidelines, they would not land in trouble.
2. The telephone rang while I was having a bath.
3. Since its conception in the 1970s the internet has grown in popularity.
4. If she had acted more responsibly everything would have been all right.

# Tense consistency exercise

5. Thousands of people will see the art exhibition before it closes on Friday.
6. Captain James Cook was killed by Hawaiian islanders in 1779 while he was on a visit to Alaska.
7. I was terribly disappointed with my marks because I had worked really hard.
8. The teacher started asking questions as soon as she finished the lessons.
9. Everyone hoped that she would return safely.
10. The boy confessed that he had taken the money.