**Academic Grammar – common tenses  
Past simple / present simple / present perfect / future simple (will)**

**Exercise 1**

**Present simple vs past simple**

Identify the mistakes in the following sentences. Not all are incorrect.

1. *The online payment system Stripe was a trustworthy payment processor.*
2. *In the UK, the first zero-waste shop opened in 2017.*
3. *Google, YouTube and Facebook combined received more than 150 billion visits per month.*

**Exercise 2**

**Present simple vs present perfect**

Highlight the correct form of the verb.

1. *According to the BBC, almost 24,000 students apply/have applied to study medicine at UK universities next September.*
2. *Homeopathy uses/has used diluted substances which cause the body to heal itself.*
3. *Approximately 10% of the world’s population is believed/has been believed to be left-handed.*

**Exercise 3**

**Past simple vs present perfect**

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. *Green tea \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a significant trend in the West. (become)*
2. *Dave Asprey \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_the first biohacking facility ‘upgrade labs’ in 2017. (set up)*
3. *PayPal charging customers whose accounts are inactive. (begin)*

**Exercise 4**

**Present simple vs future simple with ‘will’**

Highlight the correct option. If both are correct, highlight them both.

1. *This essay argues/will argue that physical banks will disappear completely in the next decade.*
2. *In 2025, healthcare systems will adopt/adopt more preventative health approaches.*
3. *These findings suggest that more in-depth research in this field is required/will be required.*

**Exercise 5**

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets. Use only **active or passive structures of past simple / present simple / present perfect simple / future simple**.

1.Government income \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from indirect taxation such as import duties. *(derive)*

2. Unemployment\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_when economic growth outstrips productivity growth*. (fall)*

3. Over the last five years, major exporting countries \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_companies caught bribing foreign officials to win contracts*. (prosecute)*

*4*. Once the new resolution is approved, countries \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to inspect any suspicious land, sea or air cargo, including luxury goods*. (require).*

5. The findings are based on responses from 500 business owners around the country who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_fewer than 100 employees*. (have)*

6. Every year, member states \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more available funding for agriculture subsidies*. (demand)*

**Exercise 6**

Complete the gaps in the paragraph with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

**Exams versus coursework**

The most effective way to assess students (*long* *debate*) in the field of education. Two of the most common methods are examinations and coursework. On the one hand, examinations (*allow*) teachers to assess several students at the same time on the same content. Exams are also seen by some as more flexible in relation to content, timing and question types. Indeed, a 2018 study led by Stanford University (*show*) that male students (*achieve*) higher scores with multiple-choice tasks whereas open-ended questions (*enable*) female students to perform better. On the other hand, …..