

## Focus on Verbs

### *Simple Past / Present Perfect*

#### **A**

Since computers were first introduced to the public in the early 1980's, technology \_\_\_\_\_(change) a great deal.

The first computers \_\_\_\_\_ (be) simple machines designed for basic tasks.

They \_\_\_\_\_ (have, not) much memory and they \_\_\_\_\_ (be, not) very powerful.

Early computers were often quite expensive and customers often \_\_\_\_\_ (pay) thousands of dollars for machines which actually \_\_\_\_\_ (do) very little.

Most computers \_\_\_\_\_ (be) separate, individual machines used mostly as expensive typewriters or for playing games.

#### **B**

Times \_\_\_\_\_ (change).

Computers \_\_\_\_\_ (become) powerful machines with very practical applications.

Programmers \_\_\_\_\_ (create) a large selection of useful programs which do everything from teaching foreign languages to bookkeeping.

We are still playing video games, but today's games \_\_\_\_\_ (become) faster, more exciting interactive adventures.

Many computer users \_\_\_\_\_ (get, also) on the Internet and \_\_\_\_\_ (begin) communicating with other computer users around the world.

We \_\_\_\_\_ (start) to create international communities online.

In short, the simple, individual machines of the past \_\_\_\_\_ (evolve) into an international World Wide Web of knowledge.

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### **Answers**

## A

Since computers were first introduced to the public in the early 1980's, technology has changed (change) a great deal.

The first computers were (be) simple machines designed for basic tasks.

They didn't have (have, not) much memory and they (be, not) very powerful.

Early computers were often quite expensive and customers often paid (pay) thousands of dollars for machines which actually did (do) very little.

Most computers were (be) separate, individual machines used mostly as expensive typewriters or for playing games.

## B

Times have changed (change).

Computers have become (become) powerful machines with very practical applications.

Programmers have created (create) a large selection of useful programs which do everything from teaching foreign languages to bookkeeping.

We are still playing video games, but today's games have become (become) faster, more exciting interactive adventures.

Many computer users have also got (get, also) on the Internet and have begun (begin) communicating with other computer users around the world.

We have started (start) to create international communities online.

In short, the simple, individual machines of the past have evolved (evolve) into an international World Wide Web of knowledge.