Time

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

UPPER-INTERMEDIATE | B2

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each temporal concept with its meaning.

1 chronology	____	a happening at the same time
2 interval	____	b period separating two events
3 recurrence	____	c continuing and not yet completed
4 simultaneity	____	d ordered sequence of events
5 transition	____	e event causing an important change
6 time frame	____	f happening again, often regularly
7 turning point	____	g brief and not lasting long
8 retrospective	____	h period considered in a plan or account
9 short-lived	____	i a change from one state or stage to another
10 ongoing	____	j looking back at and evaluating past events

2 Complete the temporal collocations.

chronological | **frame** | **interval** | **ongoing** | **period** | **recurring** | **transition** | **turning**

1 in _____ order

2 over an extended _____

3 within a specific time _____

4 at regular _____s

5 an _____ process

6 a _____ problem

7 a smooth _____

8 a decisive _____ point

3 Choose the most precise term for the context.

1 Two changes occurred at the same moment: *simultaneity / recurrence*.

2 The problem continues today: *ongoing / short-lived*.

3 The event changed the direction of the project: *turning point / interval*.

4 The report reviews past decisions: *retrospective / transition*.

5 The symptoms return every winter: *recurrence / chronology*.

6 The excitement faded quickly: *short-lived / ongoing*.

7 The study covers 2010-2020: *time frame / simultaneity*.

Time

4 Complete the historical overview with terms from the box.

chronology | interval | ongoing | recurrence | retrospective | short-lived | simultaneity | time frame | transition | turning point

The study reconstructs the **1** _____ of events within a ten-year **2** _____. A long **3** _____ separated the first two phases. The **4** _____ from local to national activity was gradual. One election became a decisive **5** _____. Some reforms were **6** _____, whereas others are still **7** _____. The **8** _____ of economic and political change makes causes difficult to separate. The report also notes the **9** _____ of earlier problems and ends with a **10** _____ assessment.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

Periodising history
Historians divide the past into periods to organise complex developments and make comparison easier. Such boundaries are useful, but they can imply that change happened suddenly on a single date. In reality, political, social and technological transitions often unfold at different speeds. Period labels may also reflect one region's experience more strongly than another's. A periodisation should therefore be treated as an analytical framework rather than a perfect copy of historical time.

1 Why do historians divide the past into periods? _____

2 What can period boundaries wrongly imply? _____

3 How do transitions often unfold? _____

4 What bias may period labels contain? _____

5 How should periodisation be treated? _____

6 What should it not be considered? _____

6 Rewrite using the expression in capitals.

1 The events are presented in time order. **CHRONOLOGICAL** _

2 The enthusiasm did not last long. **SHORT-LIVED** _____

3 The two developments happened together. **SIMULTANEOUS** _

4 The reform marked an important change. **TURNING** _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **120-150 word** account of a development over time. Include phases, overlap, a turning point and an ongoing consequence.

[ ] Use at least ten target terms. [ ] Distinguish sequence from simultaneity. [ ] Qualify period boundaries.

ANSWER KEY

1 Temporal concepts

1 **d** 2 **b** 3 **f** 4 **a** 5 **i** 6 **h** 7 **e** 8 **j** 9 **g** 10 **c**

2 Temporal collocations

1 **chronological** 2 **period** 3 **frame** 4 **interval** 5 **ongoing** 6 **recurring** 7 **transition** 8 **turning**

3 Precise terms

1 **simultaneity** 2 **ongoing** 3 **turning point** 4 **retrospective**
5 **recurrence** 6 **short-lived** 7 **time frame**

4 Historical overview

1 **chronology** 2 **time frame** 3 **interval** 4 **transition** 5 **turning point**
6 **short-lived** 7 **ongoing** 8 **simultaneity** 9 **recurrence** 10 **retrospective**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 To organise developments and compare them. 2 That change occurred suddenly on one date. 3 At different speeds.
4 Bias towards one region. 5 As an analytical framework. 6 A perfect copy of historical time.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 They are in **chronological** order. 2 The enthusiasm was **short-lived**. 3 The developments were **simultaneous**. 4 It was a **turning point**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check sequencing, overlap, temporal scale and appropriate qualification.