

GRADE 12 – TENSES

I. Complete the sentence, using either the past simple or past progressive of the verbs in parentheses.

1. When Mrs. Chu _____ (hear) a strange noise, she _____ (get) up to investigate.
2. I _____ (not hear) the thunder during the storm last night because I _____ (sleep).
3. At eight o'clock last night, I _____ (practice) the piano.
4. When I _____ (be) a child, we _____ (make) our own amusement.
5. It _____ (happen) while I _____ (live) in Eastbourne last year.
6. I _____ (live) in London for ten years while I _____ (be) a child.
7. As I _____ (walk) down the road, I _____ (see) Bill.
8. I got a package in the mail. When I _____ (open) it, I _____ (find) a surprise.
9. While Jane _____ (wash) the dishes, her brothers _____ (watch) television.
10. I _____ (rewind) the rented video before I _____ (return) it to the store yesterday.
11. When he realized I _____ (look) at him, he _____ (turn) away.
12. Richard _____ (live) in Chicago for five years when his company _____ (transfer) him to New York.
13. He usually wears sandals but when I last _____ (see) him he _____ (wear) boots.
14. I was alone in the house at that time because Mr. Jones _____ (work) in the garage and Mrs. Jones _____ (shop).
15. Jane _____ (meet) her husband while she _____ (study) law at Harvard.

II. Underline the correct answer.

1. On my last visit to Wixton I found that the village *hadn't changed* / *didn't change* much.
2. Mark *has taken* / *took* many trips to Asia since he *has started* / *started* his own import-export business.
3. When I was introduced to Carol, I was sure that I *had met* / *met* her before.
4. Argentina *has won* / *won* the World Cup in 1986 for the second time since the cup *was* / *has been* first awarded in 1930.
5. When the teacher *had* / *came* in, all the students *had stood* / *stood* up.
6. By the time Jackson *had arrived* / *arrived* to help, we *had already finished* / *already finished* moving everything.
7. I can't come to your party because I *broke* / *have broken* my leg.
8. As soon as I *had turned* / *turned* the ignition key, the engine *had caught* / *caught* fire.
9. When they *got* / *had got* married, they *knew* / *had known* each other for 15 years.
10. My brother *has written* / *wrote* several plays. He *has just finished* / *just finished* his second tragedy.
11. The apartment was hot when I *had got* / *got* home, so I *had turned* / *turned* on the air conditioner.
12. Ann *has started* / *started* a letter to her parents last week, but she still *hasn't finished* / *didn't finish* it.
13. I *knew* / *have known* Tim when he was a child, but I *didn't see* / *haven't seen* him for many years.
14. It was the fifth time she *asked* / *had asked* me the same question.
15. I have read / *read his books when I* *has been* / *was at school*. Have you ever read / Did you ever read *his books*?