Read the article and put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect or past simple.

Joseph Rodriguez was born in Los Angeles, California. At the age of 13, he 1) …… (join) a local gang and throughout histeenage years he 2) …… (spend) a lot of time in probation camps and local jails. Finally, he 3) …… (end up) in a maximum security prison and it was then, when he 4) …… (be) 28 years old, that Joseph 5) …… (decide) to turn his life around.

Since then, he 6) …… (never/look back). After being released from prison, he 7) …… (attend)university to train as a registered nurse. When he 8) …… (graduate), he started work in the Intensive Care unit of St. Bernadine Medical Centre and he 9) …… (work) there ever since.

In addition to his work at the hospital, Joseph 10…… (also/set up) the charity GRIT (Gang Reduction Intervention Team). This organisation teaches valuable skills to teens affected by gangs and encourages those expelled from school to return to education. GRIT 11) …… (already/help) many teenagers to escape gang life and it is currently helping hundreds more.

From his troubled beginnings as a gang member, Joseph Rodriguez 12) ……(become) an important part of the community. Both in his job as a nurse and through his charity GRIT, he 13) ……(already/change) the lives of countless people, and his good work still continues.

LIVEWORKSHEETS