THE PAST TENSES

Exercise 1: Choose the best answer to complete each following sentence.

1. The manager _____ the store before I arrived.

A. closed B. had closed C. has closed D. was closed

2. After he _____ his English course, he went to England to continue his study.

A. has finish B. had finished C. was finished D. would finish

3. While my father _____a film on TV, my mother was cooking dinner.

A. watched B. was watching C. had watched D. watches

4. When I came to visit her last night, she _____ a bath.

A. is having B. was having C. has had D. had had

5. He _____ his Chinese course before he went to China to continue his business.

A. will finish B. has finished C. had finished D. will have finished

6. We _____ for going home when it began to rain.

A. were preparing B. are preparing C. will be preparing D. have prepared

7. John _____ in the same house since he left school.

A. lived B. had lived C. was living D. has lived

8. I had prepared dinner before I _____ to work.

A. went B. was going C. had gone D. is going

9. When she came into the hall, she _____ her arms to the audience, smiled and bowed deeply.

A. opened B. had opened C. was opening D. is opening

10. I have never played badminton before. This is the first time I _____ to play it.

A. try B. tried C. have tried D. am trying

11. When I last saw him, he _____ in London.

A. has lived B. is living C. was living D. has been living

12. By the age of 25, he _____ two famous novels.

A. wrote B. writes C. has written D. had written

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13. When her husband was in the army, Mary _____ to him twice a week

A. was writing B. wrote C. was written D. had written

14. I have never played football before. This is the first time I _____ to play.

A. try B. tried C. have tried D. am trying

15. Since Tom _____, I have heard nothing from him.

A. had left B. left C. has left D. was left

16. After I _____ lunch, I looked for my bag.

A. had B. had had C. will have had D. have had

17. These were the highest words of praise they _____ from the old man.

A. ever heard B. have ever had C. had ever had D. will have ever heard

18. He fell down when he _____ towards the church.

A. run B. runs C. was running D. had run

19. Within a week she knew the fearful mistake she _____.

A. made B. has made C. had made D. was making

20. Before she went to bed, she _____ her homework already.

A. finished B. is finishing C. had finished D. was finishing

21. There _____ something vaguely familiar about her face but I couldn't remember where I __ her before.

A. is/ have met B. was/ had met C. will see/ meet D. was/ met

22. She told me that her family _____ long in that town.

A. has lived B. had lived C. lived D. was living

23. By 8 o'clock yesterday, the spaceship _____ 20 hours around the earth.

A. will travel B. has been traveling

C. had been traveling D. will have been traveling

24. The child kept the present that she _____.

A. has been given B. had been given C. had given D. has given

25. That pipe _____ for ages-we must get it mended.

A. has been leaking B. has been leaked

C. had been leaked D. had been leaking

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EXERCISE 2

1. No sooner did he return from a long journey than he was ordered to pack his bags.

   A. did he return B. long C. than D. was ordered

2. The crime rate in this city has increased from ten per cent last year to thirty percent by the end of 2019 due to the influx of the gang element.

   A. has increased B. to C. due to D. influx

3. At this time last year, I am attending an English course in America.

   A. At this time B. am attending C. an D. in

4. When we got home last night, we found that somebody broke into the flat.

   A. got B. found C. somebody D. broke

5. While the plumber was repairing the dishwasher, I had watched the smartphone.

   A. plumber B. was repairing C. had watched D. the

6. When their dad got home, the boys had been watching TV for three hours.

   A. When B. got C. had been watching D. for

7. She washed the dishes when her parents came back home.

   A. washed B. dishes C. when D. came

8. That evening we had stayed up to talk about the town, where he had lived for some years.

   A. That B. had stayed C. where D. had lived

9. It is the worst dish that I ever tried in my life.

   A. is B. worst C. that D. tried

10. At first I thought I did the right thing, but soon I realized that I'd made a serious mistake.

    A. At first B. did C. realized D. serious

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