PAST TENSES

Aspect/Tense	Past
Simple	**Ved/V2** **Did V?** **didn't V**
Continuous	**was/were Ving**
Perfect	**had Ved/V3**
Perfect Continuous	**had been Ving**

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past tense.

1) She ……..(type) a letter when her boss …….(arrive).
2) By the time I .....(get) to the theatre the play ……(already/start).
3) Why … (John /be) so tired yesterday? - He …….(work) hard on his project all day. He ……(only/finish) it by 11p.m.
4) I …… (practise) for weeks before I ……. (make) that speech!
5) When I …… (see) Mary, she ……. (talk) to somebody outside the butcher's.
6) I …… (write) postcards while John ……. (sunbathe) on the balcony yesterday afternoon.
7) I …… (just/finish) packing when my taxi …… (arrive).
8) He …… (drive) for three hours before he ……. (reach) his destination.
9) She ……. (train) for the finals for over a week before she ……. (find out) that she ……. (disqualify).
10) I …… (watch) some television after I … ……(finish) my dinner.
11) A: …… (you/see) the film last night?-B: No. It ……. (start) before I ……. (finish) doing my homework.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past tense.

1) I …….(watch) the parade when I …… (see) an old friend in the crowd.
2) He …… (arrive) safely in Egypt yesterday.
3) I …… (just/finish) packing when my taxi ……. (arrive).
4) The sun …… (shine) and the birds …… (sing) in the trees.
5) Sarah ……. (wash) the dishes by the time her husband …….. (arrive).
6) The fans …… (leave) the stadium when the concert …… (finish).
7) Mark ……. (study) while his sister ……. (listen) to music.
8) She …….. (walk) in the park when a dog …….. (attack) her.
9) Mary …….. (read) the contract before she …….. (sign) it.
10) A: Why …….. (you/ not/ answer) my text message?- B: I'm sorry, but I …… (take) a bath at that moment.

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past tense.

1) He .....(buy) the house before 1978.
2) She ..... ……(wait) for an hour before Helen ..... (arrive).
3) Mary ..... (find) a beautiful shell while she .....(walk) on the beach.
4) It ..... (already /snow) for two hours when they …….(leave) the house.
5) We …….. (arrive) at the airport, ……. (rent) a car and ……. (go) on an excursion.
6) Peter ……. (read) a magazine while he …… (have) a coffee.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

7) The museum ……. (close) by the time they …….. (get) there.
8) That man …… (jump) out in front of our car while we ……. (drive) along the street.
9) They … …….(look) forward to this holiday for years before they finally managed to do it.
10) Philip ……. (lose) his camera when he …… (walk) around the city.

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past tense.

1) She looked tired. She …….. (plant) flowers all morning.
2) I …….. (play) volleyball when the ball hit my head.
3) By the time Sheila got back, Chris …….. (go).
4) When I …….. (be) five my parents …….… (buy) a piano for me.
5) First I……. … (take) off my coat, then I …… (go) to the concert hall.
6) I … … (walk) to work when I … (hear) the news.
7) The last time I ……. (see) you …….. (be)two years ago.
8) They …….. (drive) for an hour before their car …… (break) down.
9) John ……. (fall) asleep while he ……..… (read) a book.
10) They …… (wait) for 40 minutes before Ann finally … ……..(arrive).

LIVEWORKSHEETS