Grammar practice

1 Match and make sentences.

1 By the time the police caught the thief,
2 Laurence had lived in New York
3 After they had sold their car,
4 We didn't leave
5 It was the first time
6 As soon as I had shouted at him,
7 They had just washed the car
8 I arrived at your house
9 The lawyer hadn't received the letter
10 By the time she picked up the phone,

a she had seen a dolphin.
b when we spoke to him.
c before he moved to London.
d when it started to rain.
e he had sold all the jewellery.
f until we had locked all the doors.
g it had stopped ringing.
h they bought a motorbike.
i I felt sorry.
j but you had already left.

2 Complete with the *past perfect simple*.

1 They had finished (finish) their lesson before one o'clock.
2 She was worried because her son ..... (not call) all day.
3 ..... (Paul / think) of this before you told him?
4 By five thirty everybody ..... (go) home.
5 ..... (they / have) dinner by the time you got there?
6 We ..... (not realise) it was so late until the waiter brought the bill.
7 Was it cold? ..... (you / take) your coat with you?
8 As soon as he ..... (leave), the boss asked for him.
9 Jackie didn't do the exercise because she ..... (not understand) it.
10 I ..... (already / put on) my pyjamas when she asked me to go out with her.

3 Complete with the *past perfect simple* or *past simple*.

1 The game had already begun (already / begin) when we turned (turn) on the television.
2 As soon as Leslie ..... (pay) for her shopping, she ..... (leave).
3 After I ..... (talk) to my teacher, everything ..... (seem) easier.
4 It ..... (not snow) at the ski resort until they ..... (arrive).
5 ..... (they / just / wake up) when you ..... (call) them?
6 By the time I ..... (meet) him, he ..... (already / make) three films.
7 ..... (you / ever / use) a computer before you ..... (get) this job?
8 After the plane ..... (take) off, the young woman ..... (relax).
9 The little boy ..... (never / be) to the theatre before.
10 We ..... (just / begin) the lesson when the alarm bell ..... (ring).

Image by Carol Stephen
LIVEWORKSHEETS