Tense and aspect – practice exercise

Complete the sentences below with the correct form of the verb in brackets. **Use simple, continuous, perfect or perfect continuous forms of the past, present and future**. (Do not use 'be going to + infitive' or present tenses for the future in this exercise). **Remember** to **use contractions** when possible.
Tip: Identify words and use context in each sentence to help decide which tense and aspect to use.

1. _____ (you / wait for) John? I _____ (think) he'll be here soon.

2. I _____ (agree). We _____ (waste) our time discussing this. Let's move on.

3. We _____ (check) the address, _____ (put) it into the sat nav and then _____ (drive) to the agency. When we _____ (arrive) we _____ (discover) we were in the wrong town!

4. What can I do now? I _____ (finish) compiling the statistics but my eyes _____ (hurt) because I _____ (stare) at a computer screen all day.

5. When the film _____ (start), I _____ (realise) that I _____ (already / see) it.

6. By last Christmas I _____ (decide) it was time to change my job. I _____(think about) it for some time and it _____ (be) a difficult decision to make.

7. I _____ (always / suspect) that the contract _____ (not / draw up) by a lawyer. It's good to know I didn't imagine it.

8. This time next week you _____ (finish) your exams and you _____ (relax) by a pool.

9. Everything _____ (be) perfect. We _____ (practice) for 2 months by the time you arrive on Friday and promise we _____ (wait) for you to arrive before starting the dress rehearsal.

10. After the discussion we had, we know they _____ (lower) their prices on future orders.

11. They _____ (clean) the engine when someone _____ (turn it on). We were lucky that nobody was injured.

12. Yesterday morning was beautiful. The birds _____ (sing) and the sun _____ (shine) when suddenly, out of nowhere, the storm _____ (hit) us.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Complete the table below by writing the number of the sentences above in which you used each tense/aspect. Only use your answers. A sentence may be listed in more than one box below. Use a comma and space before adding a new number (for example 3, 4, 5)

	PAST	PRESENT	FUTURE
SIMPLE			
CONTINUOUS			
PERFECT			
PERFECT CONTINUOUS			

LIVEWORKSHEETS