

THE SEQUENCE OF TENSE

Choose the best answer

1. When I last saw him, he _____ in London.
A. is living B. has been living C. was living D. lived
2. By the time he arrives here tomorrow, they _____ for London.
A. would have left B. will have left C. will left D. are leaving
3. Mr. Pike _____ English at our school for 20 years before he retired last year.
A. had been teaching B. has been teaching C. was teaching D. is teaching
4. When I _____ to the airport, I realized that I _____ my passport at home.
A. got/had left B. got/left C. had got/had left D. got/was left
5. Call me as soon as you _____ your test results.
A. get B. will get C. will have got D. got
6. I _____ to Greece until Sally and I went there last summer.
A. have never been B. had never been C. was never being D. were never
7. I _____ along the street when I suddenly heard footsteps behind me.
A. was walking B. am walking C. walk D. walked
8. The boy fell while he _____ down the stairs.
A. run B. running C. was running D. runs
9. I will come and see you before I _____ for America.
A. leave B. will leave C. have left D. left
10. When the first child was born, they _____ for three years.
A. have been married B. had been married C. will be married D. will have been married
11. It _____ a long time since we were apart. I did not recognize her.
A. is B. has been C. was D. had been
12. In one year's time, she _____ for this company for 15 years.
A. will be working B. will have been working C. will work D. has worked
13. His health has improved a lot since he _____ doing exercises regularly.
A. starts B. started C. has started D. had started
14. She hurt herself while she _____ hide-and-seek with her friends.
A. is playing B. had played C. played D. was playing
15. What _____ at 9 o'clock last night? I phoned you but couldn't get through to you.
A. did you do B. were you doing C. would you do D. had you done
16. It is raining heavily with rolls of thunder. We _____ such a terrible thunderstorm.
A. would never see B. had never seen C. have never seen D. never see
17. My brother usually _____ me for help when he has any difficulties with his homework.
A. ask B. asks C. asked D. has asked
18. Only after she _____ from a severe illness did she realize the importance of good health.
A. would recover B. has recovered C. had recovered D. was recovering
19. Only after the bus _____ for a few miles did Jane realize she was on the wrong route.
A. was running B. had run C. has run D. runs
20. The children _____ to bed before their parents came home from work.

A. were all going

B. had all gone

C. had all been going

D. have all gone