PAST TENSES

Past Simple or Past Continuous:

Teacher: James, why is your leg in a plaster cast? What 1) ....happened.... **(happen)**?
James: Well, yesterday afternoon when I 2) ..... **(walk)** home from school, I 3) ..... **(slip)** over on the ice and 4) ..... **(break)** my ankle.
Teacher: How awful!
James: It 5) ..... **(be)**. And I 6) ..... **(not/have)** any credit on my mobile to call my parents.
Teacher: So, how did you get to hospital?
James: Well, I 7) ..... **(lie)** on the ground wondering what to do when, all of a sudden, I 8) ..... **(see)** my next door neighbour. He 9) .... **(take)** his dog for a walk.
Teacher: That was lucky.
James: I know. Anyway, he 10) ..... **(phone)** my mum and she 11) ..... **(come)** and 12) ..... **(take)** me to hospital.
Teacher: Well, I'm very glad someone 13) ..... **(find)** you and I hope your leg mends soon.

Past Simple or Continuous:

A As soon as Margaret **1)** ...got... (get) off the train, she **2)** ..... (pull) her coat around her. Rain **3)** ..... (fall) heavily and a cold wind **4)** ..... (blow) across the platform. She **5)** ..... (look) around, but no one **6)** ..... (wait) to meet her. She **7)** ..... (turn) to leave when she **8)** ..... (hear) footsteps. A man **9)** ..... (walk) towards her. He **10)** ..... (smile) at her, then he **11)** ..... (say), 'You're finally here.'

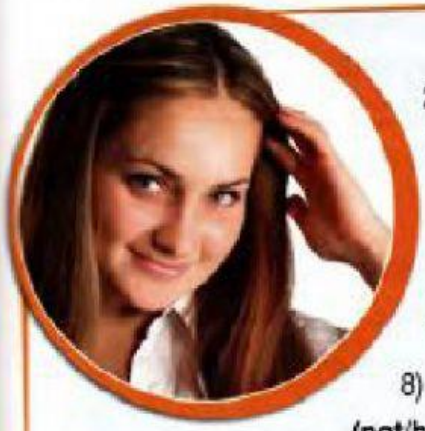
LIVEWORKSHEETS

B George **1)** ..... (pick) up his bag then, **2)** ..... (throw) it over his shoulder. It **3)** ..... (get) dark and he **4)** ..... (have) a long way to go. He wished that he had let someone know that he was coming. It **5)** ..... (start) to rain, and he was feeling cold and tired from the long journey. Suddenly, he **6)** ..... (hear) a noise, then he **7)** ..... (see) two bright lights on the road ahead. A car **8)** ..... (head) towards him. It slowed down and finally **9)** ..... (stop) beside him. A man **10)** ..... (sit) at the wheel. He **11)** ..... (open) the door quickly and **12)** ..... (say) 'Get in, George.'

C Andy **1)** ..... (step) into the house and **2)** ..... (close) the door behind him. Everything **3)** ..... (be) quiet. His heart **4)** ..... (beat) fast and his hands **5)** ..... (shake) as he crept silently into the empty house, but he was trying not to panic. He soon **6)** ..... (find) what he **7)** .... (look) for. He smiled with relief as he put on the clothes. The men who **8)** ..... (follow) him would never recognise him now.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Past Perfect or Past Simple:



Jessica 1) .....looked..... **(look)** at her watch. It 2) ..... **(be)** already 10:30 at night. She 3) ..... **(spend)** all day writing her article, so it was no surprise she 4) ..... **(feel)** so exhausted. Jessica 5) ..... **(stand up)** and 6) ..... **(look)** out the window. The street lights 7) ..... **(be)** on and the rain 8) ..... **(stop)**. She 9) ..... **(not/be)** out all day, so she 10) ..... **(decide)** to take a drive. Jessica 11) ..... **(feel)** happy and relaxed. She 12) ..... **(finally/finish)** her article for the magazine. It 13) ..... **(take)** her all weekend.

Past Perfect or Past Perfect Continuous

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 A: Did you do anything last night?
B: I went to the gym and I ... ... (just/ arrive) home when Michael called me. He said he ..... (try) to call me for ten minutes before I finally answered the phone.

2 A: Did you catch any fish on your fishing trip today?
B: Yes. I ..... (sit) in the boat for two hours when I caught a huge fish.

3 A: Did you enjoy the open-air concert yesterday?
B: The music was good, but the weather was terrible. The concert ..... (just/start) when suddenly, it began to rain. The musicians .... (only / play) for ten minutes.
A: What a shame!

4 A: Was the house tidy when you got home?
B: Yes, the children ..... (dust) the furniture and they ..... (put away) all of their toys.

5 A: Why were you so upset this morning?
B: Well, I ..... (clean) the house for hours when the children came in with muddy shoes.

6 A: Why are you so late for work this morning?
B: I'm sorry. I ..... (wait) for the train for over an hour before it eventually arrived.

LIVEWORKSHEETS