

II. THE PAST TENSES

Exercise 7 :

Complete the following sentences using the past simple forms of the verbs in brackets.

Question 1 : I _____ (lose) my key yesterday.

Question 2 : People _____ (build) this school in 2001.

Question 3 : Last year, my father _____ (promise) to buy my sister a piano. She _____ (be) very delighted to hear this.

Question 4 : It _____ (be) very hot last summer.

Question 5 : I _____ (walk) home after the party last night.

Question 6 : The Chinese _____ (invent) printing.

Question 7 : Sam and I _____ (play) tennis yesterday. He was much better than I was, so he _____ (win) easily.

Question 8 : My grandpa _____ (die) 30 years ago. I never _____ (meet) him.

Question 9 : - You _____ (go) to the movies last night?

- Yes, but it _____ (be) a mistake. The movie _____ (be) awful.

Question 10 : When I _____ (get) home last night, I _____ (be) very tired, so I _____ (go) straight to the bed.

Question 11 : Diane _____ (use) to travel a lot. These days she doesn't take many trips.

Question 12 : - When Joe and Carol _____ (meet) each other?

- They first _____ (meet) when they _____ (be) in high school.

Question 13 : When Sarah _____ (get) to the party last night, Eric had already gone home.

Question 14 : I _____ (ring) you up two days ago but I _____ (get) no answer. Where you _____ (be)?

Question 15 : When I _____ (be) small, I often _____ (play) with a doll.

Exercise 8 :

Complete the following sentences using the past continuous forms of the verbs in brackets.

Question 1 : This time last year I _____ (live) in Brazil.

Question 2 : What you _____ (do) at 10:00 last night?

Question 3 : At that time yesterday, I _____ (write) a letter.

Question 4 : She _____ (learn) English at school at 7:45 yesterday morning.

Question 5 : - What you _____ (do) at this time last night? - I was asleep.

Question 6 : Matt burned his hand while he _____ (cook) lunch.

Question 7 : I saw you in the park yesterday. You _____ (sit) on the grass and _____ (read) a book.

Question 8 : When I came home, my mother _____ (prepare) the meal.

Question 9 : Jane _____ (wait) for me when I arrived.

Question 10 : Yesterday evening, while my mother _____ (cook) in the kitchen, my father _____ (watch) the news on TV.

Question 11 : Just as I _____ (leave) the house, I heard an explosion from the inside the lab.

Question 12 : When Beth arrived, we _____ (have) dinner.

Question 13 : Why didn't you listen to me while I (talk) _____ with you?

Question 14 : Michiko couldn't come to the phone when the director called her because she _____ (work) in the factory.

Question 15 : I _____ (enjoy) the party, but Chris wanted to go home.

Exercise 9 :

Complete the following sentences using the past perfect forms of the verbs in brackets.

Question 1 : Before Sarah arrived, Eric _____ (go) home.

Question 2 : When Jane arrived at the theater, the film _____ (start).

Question 3 : He thanked me for everything I _____ (do) for him.

Question 4 : After Angelia _____ (eat) the cake, she began to feel sick.

Question 5 : When he went out to play, he _____ (do already) his homework.

Question 6 : They _____ (be) married for two years or so when Roy employed a very attractive Indian secretary in his Glasgow office.

Question 7 : Linda _____ (not study) for the exam, so she was very anxious.

Question 8 : I couldn't go into the cinema because I _____ (not bring) my tickets.

Question 9 : The man sitting next to me on the plane was very nervous. He never _____ (fly) before.

Question 10 : The tornado knocked down the tree that we _____ (plant).

Question 11 : Laura _____ (not/use) smartphone before, so I showed her how to use it.

Question 12 : We weren't hungry. We _____ (just have) lunch.

Question 13 : We didn't really want to go and see the film again. We _____ (already see) it twice - so we said "no" and we went to a shopping mall instead!

Question 14 : When thieves stole my favorite feather wallet, I was really upset. I _____ (have) it for over five years.

Question 15 : Before going to the meeting, he _____ (consult) with his lawyers.

Exercise 10 :

Complete the following sentences using the past perfect continuous forms of the verbs in brackets.

Question 1 : We _____ (play) tennis for about an hour when it started to rain heavily.

Question 2 : I was very tired when I got home. I _____ (work) hard all day.

Question 3 : At last the bus came. He _____ (wait) for 20 minutes.

Question 4 : Jim quit drinking coffee two years ago. He _____ (drink) coffee for 20 years.

Question 5 : She was out of breath. She _____ (run).

Question 6 : It wasn't raining when we went out. The sun was shining. But it _____ (rain), so the ground was wet.

Question 7 : We were extremely tired at the end of our trip. We _____ (travel) for more than 24 hours.

Question 8 : I was exhausted at the end of the test. I _____ (write) for over three hours.

Question 9 : The orchestra _____ (play) for 30 minutes when a man in audience suddenly began shouting.

Question 10 : At the time the factory closed down, Sarah _____ (work) there for five years.

Question 11 : - She _____ (watch) TV for 4 hours before she went to eat dinner?

Question 12 : She was very upset because I was late and she _____ (wait) for a very long time.

Question 13 : When the boys came into the house, their clothes were dirty, their hair was messy and one of them had a black eye. They _____ (fight).

Question 14 : It was a bit discomfort to arrive at their house and found Liz looking so depressed. I think she _____ (cry) before I got there.

Question 15 : I _____ (learn) Germany for 4 years and then decided to give it up.

Exercise 11 :

Choose the best word or phrase to complete in the following questions.

Question 1 : She passed her examination because she _____ very hard.

A. studied B. was studying C. had been studying D. studies

Question 2 : You _____ out last night or were you tired?

A. Did - went B. Had - gone C. Did - go D. Had - been going

Question 3 : This time yesterday I _____ tennis with my classmates.

A. played B. was playing C. had played D. would play

Question 4 : Nicole _____ television a lot when she _____ sick last year.

A. watched - was B. had watched - had been
C. was watching - was D. had been watching - was

Question 5 : Mary _____ home when she met Dave.

A. came B. had come C. had been coming D. was coming

Question 6 : The doorbell _____ while I _____ a shower.

A. was ringing - took B. rang - was taking
C. had rung - took D. had been ringing - took

Question 7 : When I was young, I _____ to be a pilot.

A. wanted B. had wanted C. would want D. wants

Question 8 : The war _____ out three years ago.

A. was breaking B. had broken C. broke D. have been breaking

Question 9 : When he was young, he _____ in the army.

A. had been serving B. serves C. have served D. served
A. travelled B. have been travelling
C. had travelled D. travels

Question 11 : He _____ a cup of coffee every morning many years ago.

A. have been drinking B. drank
C. had drunk D. was drinking

Question 12 : Yesterday she _____ to pay me for my helping her but I didn't accept.

A. will offer B. was offering C. had offered D. offered

Question 13 : There _____ a lot of grass in the garden last summer.

A. had been B. were C. have been D. will be

Question 14 : It's time we _____ something to help him.

A. will do B. had done C. did D. was doing

Question 15 : Mr Brown _____ in Paris when the Second World War broke out.

A. lived B. was _____ living C. had lived D. will live

Question 16 : I and my mom _____ comic at this time last night.

A. read B. had been reading C. have read D. were reading

Question 17 : At 10pm last night, my younger brother _____ games online.

A. had been playing B. was playing C. will be playing D. have been playing

Question 18 : People _____ all trees along the streets at this time two years ago.

A. are planting B. will have been planting
C. were planting D. will be planting

Question 19 : She _____ her homework at this time yesterday morning?

A. Was-doing B. Had - been doing C. Do-do D. Will - be doing

Question 20 : They _____ dinner when we _____.

A. had - was coming B. had had - came
C. come - will be coming D. were having - came

Question 21 : At 8.am yesterday they _____ dinner while we _____ TV.

A. will be having - will be watching B. were having - were watching
C. are having - are watching D. will have had - will have watched

Question 22 : When I went out, the sun _____.

A. will be shining B. is shining C. was shining D. had been shining

Question 23 : We _____ to the station when it _____ to rain.

A. were walking - began B. had been walking - began
C. have been walking - begins D. will be walking - begin

Question 24 : The servant dropped two cups while she _____ up last night.

A. is washing B. had been washing
C. have been washing D. was washing

Question 25 : Almost everybody _____ by the time we arrived.

A. have been leaving B. had left C. was leaving D. have left

Question 26 : The secretary _____ until she _____ her work.

A. hadn't left - finish B. don't leave - had finished
C. didn't leave - had finished D. wasn't leaving - finished

Question 27 : The teacher asked the boy why he _____ his homework.

A. have done B. did C. have been doing D. hadn't done

Question 28 : She _____ the letter when she _____ she _____ it to the wrong address.

A. posted - had realized - sent B. had posted - realized - had sent
C. was posting - realized - had sent D. have posted - had realized - had sent

Question 29 : Hardly _____ a mile when it had a flat tyre.

A. had the car gone B. did the car go C. had the car go D. do the car go

Question 30 : The weather far worse than we .

Question 31 : They _____ for five years when they finally had a child.

A. will have been married **B.** had been married
C. have married **D.** will be marrying

Question 32 : When she her work, she to the cinema.

Question 33 : At the time of our first meeting there was a considerable difference between me and him; he _____ articles in magazines for over five years while I was practically unknown.

Question 34 : The house ____ to the ground by the time the firemen ____

Question 35 : I _____ the accident when I was waiting for the taxi.

Question 36 : I agree that while the soup was OK, the meat was too dry - we _____ it about 20 minutes too long.

A. had roasted **B.** roast **C.** had roast **D.** have been roasting

Question 37 : At this time last night while people were talking to each other, he

A. was reading B. is reading C. have read

Question 38 : While we ____ in the park, Mary fell over.

Question 39 : _____ I was listening to music, I heard the doorbell.

Question 40 : How long English before she went to London?

Question 41 : They _____ at the station for 90 minutes when the train finally arrived.

A. were waiting B. will be learning C. had been waiting D. are learning

Question 42 : We _____ for her ring for two hours and then we found it in the bathroom.

A. had been looking B. were looking C. will be learning D. have been learning

Question 43 : Frank Sinatra caught the flu because he _____ in the rain too long.

A. was singing B. will be learning C. is singing D. had been singing

Question 44 : When police were investigating the road accident, they discovered that the driver _____ two road accidents before.

A. had been involved in B. had been being involved in
C. will be involving in D. will have involved in

Question 45 : They _____ anyone while they were walking home because it was raining.

A. weren't seeing B. hadn't see C. didn't see D. weren't seen

Question 46 : Although at that time my knowledge of German was very poor, I _____ most of what they said.

A. understood B. have understood
C. managed to understand D. didn't understand

Question 47 : We watched the film The Godfather last night. We had seen the film about 3 times before but we watched it again because John _____ it.

A. had been seeing B. had never seen C. have never seen D. have been eating

Question 48 : We _____ for nearly 100 kilometres before we finally found a service station we could stop at.

A. had driven B. have been driving C. had been driving D. have driven

Question 49 : I _____ a student in Moloxop School in 1998.

A. was B. were C. to be D. to was

Question 50 : When I got home I realised that while I _____ someone had stolen my wallet.

A. had walked B. have been walking C. have walked D. had been walking