

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 Angela _____(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

Question 10 : She often goes to school by bike but yesterday she _____ by bus.

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 10.p.m 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 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