LONDON'S BIGGEST FIRE...

1. You are going to read a text from 1936 about the fire which destroyed The Crystal Palace. Choose the best answer in each gap.

LONDON FIRE
(CONTINUED)

THE Crystal Palace (1) the biggest thing in London: 1,600 feet of glass and iron with two 300 foot water towers (*right*). A monument to the taste of Queen Victoria, it (2) like a gigantic greenhouse and, since 1854, (3) the pleasure palace of all Londoners, rich and poor. It (4) classical courts and galleries, an aviary, an aquarium and a theatre. In it (5) concerts, spectacles, movies, animal and flower shows. In 1913 the British nation (6) it from its private owners. Lately a television broadcasting station (7) in one of the towers. On Nov. 30 a fire (8) in the women's cloak room, (9) through the wooden floors, (10) the roof of the central transept into a rain of molten glass. Then the fire (11) down the 1,600-ft. nave, (12) its glow over eight counties of England. The aquarium fish were boiled but somebody (13) the doors of the aviary. The Nottingham *Journal* called the fire "the ruin of the Victorian tradition." The Crystal Palace's manager, Sir Henry Buckland (*see right*), who had (14) the fire, holding the hand of his little daughter Crystal (named for the Palace), mournfully (15) afterward, "The Crystal Palace will never be rebuilt. It (16) $6,750,000 in 1854 and we had just (17) $1,500,000 in improvements for the coronation celebrations next year."

1.	a) has been	b) was	c) is
2.	a) looked	b) had looked	c) was looking
3.	a) was	b) is	c) had been
4.	a) was	b) had had	c) had
5.	a) held	b) had held	c) were held
6.	a) was bought	b) bought	c) was buying
7.	a) had been set up	b) was set up	c) set up
8.	a) started	b) was starting	c) would start

2. Now create the past forms from the infinitives.

9. sweep up	10. turn	11. roar
12. spread	13. open	14. call
15. announce	16. cost	17. spend