Past Obligation & Ability

Exercise: Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of had to, managed to, could, couldn't, or could hardly.

1. When we were on a hike, we _____ hear strange noises coming from the bushes.

2. Despite our efforts, we _____ find the lost keys anywhere in the house.

3. During the power cut, we _____ find our way out of the dark basement after 20 minutes.

4. She _____ believe her luck when she won the lottery.

5. Despite the heavy rain, the firefighters _____ rescue the trapped kitten from the tree.

6. After hours of searching, they _____ locate the missing child in the dense forest.

7. Despite the language barrier, they _____ communicate effectively with the locals during their trip.

8. When the car broke down in the middle of nowhere, they _____ find a mechanic to help them, so they _____ walk all the way back to the town

9. Due to the stormy weather, they _____ cancel their outdoor picnic plans.

10. It was a stupid thing to do, but I _____ lock my keys in the car.

11. She had a really soar throat, she _____ speak, but she _____ do the presentation.

LIVEWORKSHEETS