Test E: Tenses – present and past

A

Complete the conversations. Put in the correct form of each verb.

▶ A: Are you ready?
B: I won't be a moment. I'm doing ..... (I / do) my hair.

1 A: Could you tell me your address?
B: Well, ... (I / live) in a friend's house at the moment. Luckily ..... (I / find) a place of my own now, but I can't move in until next week.

2 A: Is this your CD?
B: No, it isn't mine. ..... (I / think) ..... (it / belong) to Peter.

3 A: Can I borrow your calculator, please?
B: Well, ... (I / use) it to work out these figures at the moment. ..... (I / want) to finish doing them, now that ..... (I / start).

4 A: Why can't you wash your dirty plates sometimes? ..... (you / leave) them in the sink most of the time.
B: OK, sorry. The last few weeks ..... (I / have) so little time. ..... (I / rush) around all the time.

B

Read the story and write the missing words. Use one word only in each space.

One day a man was (▶) walking ..... past a house in Bournemouth when he (1) ..... a woman's voice shouting for help. The man (2) ..... someone (3) ..... probably trying to murder her. He ran to a phone box and (4) ..... the police. The police came quite quickly, but by now the shouting had (5) ..... . However, the man (6) ..... quite sure that he (7) ..... heard cries for help. When the police (8) ..... on the door, there was no answer. So they broke down the door and went in. Inside the house was a woman who had just (9) ..... out of the shower. She explained to the police that she had (10) ..... singing along to the Beatles song 'Help!'.

C

Write a second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Begin with the word in brackets.

▶ Our trip to Africa was in October. (We ...)
We went to Africa in October.

1 We've had ten hours of rain. (It ...)
.....

2 It's the right thing to do in my opinion. (I ...)
.....

3 Our sofa is in a different place now. (We ...)
.....

4 It was breakfast-time when Susan rang. (I ...)
.....

5 Their game of badminton is always on Tuesday. (They ...)
.....

LIVEWORKSHEETS

D

Write the correct answer in each space.

▶ This isn't my first visit to London. I've been here before.
a) I'm b) I've been c) I was

1 I've got my key. I found it when ..... for something else.
a) I looked b) I've looked c) I was looking

2 Sorry, I can't stop now. ..... to an important meeting.
a) I go b) I'm going c) I've gone

3 I can't get Tessa on the phone. ..... all afternoon.
a) I'm trying b) I try c) I've been trying

4 The bank told me last week there was no money in my account. ..... it all.
a) I'd spent b) I spent c) I was spending

5 There's a new road to the motorway. ..... it yesterday.
a) They'd opened b) They opened c) They've opened

E

Some of these sentences are correct, and some have a word which should not be there. If the sentence is correct, put a tick (✓). If it is incorrect, cross the unnecessary word out of the sentence and write it in the space.

▶ Martin has changed his mind about next weekend. ✓
▶ We ~~were~~ enjoyed the holiday very much. were
1 Nancy is practising on the piano. .....
2 It was lucky that we had been decided to buy our tickets in advance. .....
3 We were riding our bikes when suddenly I was felt a pain in my leg. .....
4 We are go camping for three weeks every summer. .....
5 They have planted some new trees last year. .....
6 I suddenly realized I had been walking in the wrong direction. .....
7 Did you know that Anna has been won a prize? .....
8 No one told me that the goods had arrived the week before. .....

F

Complete the news report. Put each verb into the correct form.

The actress Vanessa Kemp (▶) has disappeared (disappear). Yesterday she (1) ..... (fail) to arrive at the Prince Charles Theatre in London's West End for her leading role in the comedy 'Don't look now!'. Ms Kemp, who (2) ..... (live) in Hampstead, (3) ..... (leave) home at four o'clock yesterday afternoon for the theatre, a journey she (4) ..... (make) several times the week before. Two people who (5) ..... (walk) past her home at the time (6) ..... (see) her leave. But no one (7) ..... (see) her since then. At half past seven she still (8) ..... (not / arrive) at the theatre. At eight o'clock the theatre manager had to break the news to the audience, who (9) ..... (wait) patiently for the play to start. Since yesterday, theatre staff and friends (10) ..... (try) to contact Ms Kemp, but they (11) ..... (have) no success so far. The police (12) ..... (take) the matter seriously, but they (13) ..... (believe) that she is unlikely to be in any danger. Her friends all (14) ..... (want) to hear from her soon.

LIVEWORKSHEETS