

GRADE 12 – TENSES

I. Complete the sentence, using either the past simple or past progressive of the verbs in parentheses.

1. When Mrs. Chu _____ (hear) a strange noise, she _____ (get) up to investigate.
2. I _____ (not hear) the thunder during the storm last night because I _____ (sleep).
3. At eight o'clock last night, I _____ (practice) the piano.
4. When I _____ (be) a child, we _____ (make) our own amusement.
5. It _____ (happen) while I _____ (live) in Eastbourne last year.
6. I _____ (live) in London for ten years while I _____ (be) a child.
7. As I _____ (walk) down the road, I _____ (see) Bill.
8. I got a package in the mail. When I _____ (open) it, I _____ (find) a surprise.
9. While Jane _____ (wash) the dishes, her brothers _____ (watch) television.
10. I _____ (rewind) the rented video before I _____ (return) it to the store yesterday.
11. When he realized I _____ (look) at him, he _____ (turn) away.
12. Richard _____ (live) in Chicago for five years when his company _____ (transfer) him to New York.
13. He usually wears sandals but when I last _____ (see) him he _____ (wear) boots.
14. I was alone in the house at that time because Mr. Jones _____ (work) in the garage and Mrs. Jones _____ (shop).
15. Jane _____ (meet) her husband while she _____ (study) law at Harvard.

II. Underline the correct answer.

1. On my last visit to Wixton I found that the village **hadn't changed** / **didn't change** much.
2. Mark **has taken** / **took** many trips to Asia since he **has started** / **started** his own import-export business.
3. When I was introduced to Carol, I was sure that I **had met** / **met** her before.
4. Argentina **has won** / **won** the World Cup in 1986 for the second time since the cup **was** / **has been** first awarded in 1930.
5. When the teacher **had** / **came** in, all the students **had stood** / **stood** up.
6. By the time Jackson **had arrived** / **arrived** to help, we **had already finished** / **already finished** moving everything.
7. I can't come to your party because I **broke** / **have broken** my leg.
8. As soon as I **had turned** / **turned** the ignition key, the engine **had caught** / **caught** fire.
9. When they **got** / **had got** married, they **knew** / **had known** each other for 15 years.
10. My brother **has written** / **wrote** several plays. He **has just finished** / **just finished** his second tragedy.
11. The apartment was hot when I **had got** / **got** home, so I **had turned** / **turned** on the air conditioner.
12. Ann **has started** / **started** a letter to her parents last week, but she still **hasn't finished** / **didn't finish** it.
13. I **knew** / **have known** Tim when he was a child, but I **didn't see** / **haven't seen** him for many years.
14. It was the fifth time she **asked** / **had asked** me the same question.
15. I have read / read *his books when I* **has been** / **was** *at school*. Have you ever read / Did you ever read *his books*?