

Past Tenses Practice

Underline the correct form.

1. When Dora went / had gone to pay for the petrol she was putting / had put in her car, she realized that she lost/ had lost her credit card.
2. While I was waiting / had waited for my meal to arrive, I saw / was seeing that the two men who had followed me into the restaurant were staring / had been staring at me.
3. When I heard / was hearing the noise at the window, I knew / had known that someone tried / was trying to break into the house.
4. Maria didn't remember / wasn't remembering anything about the accident, except that she didn't drive / had not been driving too fast and in fact had almost stopped / was almost stopping before she reached the crossroads.
5. By the time the fire engines arrived / was arriving at the cottage, Tom and his neighbors already put out / had already put out the fire and were carrying / had been carrying furniture out of the blackened building.
6. 'What did you do / were you doing in the High Street at that time of night, and why did you run away / had you run away when the officer told / was telling you to stop?' asked the lawyer.
7. While Sally painted / was painting the ceiling, she fell off / was falling off the ladder but luckily she didn't break / hadn't broken any bones.
8. Our taxi to the airport didn't turn up / wasn't turning up on time and so by the time we got / were getting to the check-in desk, the flight already closed / had already closed.
9. Marlowe walked slowly into the room. He didn't forget / hadn't forgotten his last visit to the house, when Miss LaPorte had fired / was firing two shots at him, so he had taken / was taking no chances this time.
10. Alice could see that the tall boy had / was having difficulty making himself understood, but she decided / had decided not to help him. After all, nobody had helped / was helping her during her first days in this country.