

Narrative Tenses

Name: _____

A. From the information above, complete the following sentences.

AGE, EXPERIENCE & SUCCESS

Do people do their best work when they are young? Pop stars and actors often seem to peak in their twenties. We looked at **SIX HIGH-FLYERS** from the business world.



39

opened the first Zara store

AMANCIO ORTEGA





40

sold Birmingham City Football club for \$82 million

KARREN BRADY





43

joined the board of Facebook

SHERYL SANDBERG





47

set up own manufacturing company

JAMES DYSON





49

became Chief Executive, Easyjet

CAROLYN McCALL





50

bought Telmex, the telecommunications company

CARLOS SLIM HELU



1. Amancio Ortegas clothing empire _____ in over 80 countries when, in 2011, he _____ as chairman and _____ into property investment.
 - ☐ was operating, resigned, moved
 - ☐ had operated, was resigning, had moved
2. Before she _____ Google, Sheryl Sandberg _____ for the US Treasury. She _____ to the position of Chief of Staff by the time she left.
 - ☐ joined, had been working, had risen
 - ☐ was joining, was working, rose
3. Carolyn McCall _____ her degree when she met her husband. After graduating from university, she _____ as a teacher.
 - ☐ did, had trained
 - ☐ was doing, trained

Complete the sentences with the past perfect continuous form of the verbs. Use contracted forms where possible.

1. My friend _____ (think) about leaving college, but I persuaded him to stay on.
2. I _____ (not / work) for the company long when I got promoted.
3. They were so pleased with their success because they _____ (not / expect) it.
4. How long _____ you _____ (discuss) the new plans before everyone agreed?
5. _____ the business _____ (lose) money for a long time when it closed?
6. We _____ (not / get) good results, so we tried a new strategy.

Choose the correct option to complete the text below.

Many years ago I 1 _____ to spend New Year's Eve with my family.
I 2 _____ new year with my parents but I had nowhere to go, and being with my family seemed preferable to being on my own.

When my parents 3 _____ the door I could see they 4 _____, and that they were genuinely happy to see me. I 5 _____ addicted to heroin for 10 years, and for them, seeing me was the confirmation that I wasn't dead in an alley.

Unfortunately, I 6 _____ nothing new or exciting to tell them, just the same sad old stories. I 7 _____ from crappy job to crappy job, being invariably sacked, and I 8 _____ to crime whenever I was out of money. Same old, same old.

During dinner, I 9 _____ a few glassfuls of whisky.
I 10 _____ something to make ease the pain, because for the whole evening my sisters 11 _____ at me with such contempt that it was unbearable. My own sisters 12 _____ me. Then I had a moment of realisation; I 13 _____ that they would never hate me as much as I hated myself.

When we finished dinner I **14** my glass. "I'm going into rehab," I said. My parents **15** at me with some kind of hope. Parents never lose hope. But my sisters just **16** down with disdain. They **17** perfectly well that I had been in rehab centres many times before, and that this time wouldn't be different.

But this time it was different. After that day, I **18** that look in my sisters' eyes every day, every time I **19** to shoot some heroin. 10 years later, on a New Year's Eve, I thanked my sisters because they **20** my life. They kissed me with their new look in their eyes, the look of love.