English Tenses Test – C1 Level

Exercise 1. Multiple Choice (20 points – 1 point each)

Choose the best option to complete each sentence.

1. By the time the auditors finish, the finance team _____ the new reporting system for six months. (a) will implement (b) will have implemented (c) will be implementing (d) implements
2. If you had told me earlier, I _____ you with the contract. (a) will help (b) would help (c) would have helped (d) help
3. She _____ at the office every weekday for the last ten years before she moved abroad. (a) worked (b) has worked (c) had been working (d) had worked
4. At 9 p.m. tomorrow I _____ on a plane to Reykjavik. (a) will sit (b) will be sitting (c) will have sat (d) sit
5. When I opened the door, they _____ for over an hour. (a) argued (b) had been arguing (c) have argued (d) were arguing
6. By the time you read this email, I _____ the final decision. (a) will have made (b) will make (c) have made (d) made
7. He looked exhausted because he _____ non-stop since dawn. (a) works (b) had been working (c) had worked (d) has worked
8. The committee insisted that the proposal _____ amended before it was resubmitted. (a) is (b) was (c) should be (d) had been
9. Next year at this time she _____ at the company for a decade. (a) will have been employed (b) will be employed (c) will have employed (d) will employ
10. By the time we arrived, the guests _____ all the appetizers. (a) finished (b) have finished (c) had finished (d) had been finishing
11. He said he _____ the manuscript by Friday, but he never did. (a) will submit (b) had submitted (c) would have submitted (d) would submit
12. They _____ dinner when the ambassador called unexpectedly. (a) had been finishing (b) were finishing (c) had finished (d) have been finishing
13. If she continues at this rate, by 2030 she _____ three books. (a) will write (b) will have written (c) writes (d) will be writing
14. The witness claimed she _____ the suspect earlier that day. (a) had seen (b) had been seeing (c) saw (d) sees
15. He _____ in mathematics for years before switching to applied physics. (a) researches (b) had researched (c) had been researching (d) was researching
16. By the time you arrive, we _____ for two hours. (a) will wait (b) will have been waiting (c) will be waiting (d) have waited
17. At the conference next month she _____ about her long-term study. (a) presents (b) will be presenting (c) will have presented (d) will present

18. They regretted that they _____ the contract without legal advice. (a) signed (b) had signed (c) have signed (d) had been signing
19. He _____ all morning, so his voice was hoarse by lunchtime. (a) rehearsed (b) had been rehearsing (c) has rehearsed (d) was rehearsing
20. By the time the policy is implemented, the team _____ several simulations. (a) will run (b) will have run (c) will be running (d) runs

Exercise 2. Short Advanced Text (15 points – 10 items × 1.5 pts)
Read the text and choose the correct tense form (a, b, or c) in each case.

Last autumn the research vessel left port later than planned.

I (1) _____ (a) woke (b) was waking (c) had woken at dawn and found the crew already preparing the equipment.

We (2) _____ (a) have (b) had (c) were having disagreements about the sampling sites since the start, but no one expected the weather to deteriorate so quickly.

By the time we (3) _____ (a) reached (b) were reaching (c) had reached the first station, the visibility (4) _____ (a) dropped (b) had dropped (c) was dropping and the instruments (5) _____ (a) beeped (b) had been beeping (c) were beeping constantly.

The team leader told us that if conditions continued, we (6) _____ (a) will abort (b) would abort (c) would have aborted the mission within 24 hours.

Fortunately, before that happened, a colleague who (7) _____ (a) work (b) had worked (c) had been working on satellite data noticed a gap in the forecast and we (8) _____ (a) alter (b) altered (c) had altered course.

By the time we returned to port, the entire crew (9) _____ (a) has learned (b) had learned (c) was learning a lot, and the report (10) _____ (a) is being prepared (b) has been prepared (c) had been prepared for publication.

Exercise 3. Fill in the gaps (15 points – 1 point each)
Use the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. She _____ (live) in three different countries before she turned thirty.
2. By next month he _____ (complete) the longitudinal study.
3. They _____ (argue) for most of the afternoon when the mediator finally arrived.
4. If you call her now, she _____ (attend) a seminar — she leaves at nine.
5. I _____ (not / see) the revised draft yet. Please send it.
6. We _____ (drive) for hours before we finally stopped at a village.
7. He said he _____ (try) to contact the client, but he hadn't reached them.
8. By the end of the decade, the institute _____ (have) multiple interdisciplinary centres.
9. When we met, she _____ (study) German for eight months.

10. Tomorrow at 10 a.m. I _____ (be) presenting the proposal to the board.
11. They _____ (repair) the bridge for two months before the inspectors re-evaluated it.
12. I wish I _____ (understand) his motives earlier.
13. By the time you finish your PhD, you _____ (publish) several peer-reviewed articles.
14. He _____ (train) intensively for the marathon last winter.
15. When she finally apologized, he _____ (already / decide) not to continue the partnership.