

Past Continuous & Past Simple Test

Directions: Choose the best answer to complete each sentence correctly.

1. The plane _____ to Paris when it crashed.
A. flew B. was flying C. is flying D. flies E. were flying
2. The students _____ for the bus when it started to rain.
A. waited B. was waiting C. were waiting D. wait E. are waiting
3. We were crossing when the traffic lights _____ red.
A. turned B. was turning C. were turning D. turns E. is turning
4. When their mother called, the children _____ games.
A. played B. were playing C. was playing D. play E. are playing
5. Sue _____ the dishes when the phone rang.
A. washed B. was washing C. were washing D. washes E. is washing
6. My father _____ lunch when I got home.
A. cooked B. was cooking C. were cooking D. cooks E. is cooking
7. Jim _____ his leg when he was playing golf.
A. broke B. was breaking C. were breaking D. breaks E. is breaking
8. My brother was jumping on the bed when my mum _____ in.
A. walked B. was walking C. were walking D. walks E. is walking
9. Someone _____ Peter's bag while he was making a phone call.
A. took B. was taking C. were taking D. takes E. is taking
10. When I _____, I went into the kitchen.
A. arrived B. was arriving C. were arriving D. arrives E. am arriving
11. When the teacher _____ into the room, two boys
_____ football.
A. came / were playing B. was coming / played C. came / played D. comes / are playing E. was coming / were playing

12. Peter _____ the TV, but nothing _____.

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A. turned on /
happened | B. was turning on
/ was happening | C. turned on /
was happening | D. turns on /
happens | E. was turning on
/ happened |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|

13. When Helen _____ to school, she _____ the old man again.

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| A. walked / saw | B. was walking /
saw | C. was walking /
was seeing | D. walked /
was seeing | E. walks / sees |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|

14. While we _____ in the park, Mary _____.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| A. ran / fell over | B. were running /
fell over | C. were running /
was falling over | D. ran /
was falling over | E. run / falls over |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|

15. At 7.00 Tony _____ out of bed, and _____ into the bathroom.

- | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| A. got / went | B. was getting /
was going | C. got / was
going | D. gets / goes | E. was getting /
went |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------|

16. While Kate _____ some milk, she _____ the glass.

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| A. drank /
dropped | B. was drinking /
dropped | C. was drinking /
was dropping | D. drank /
was dropping | E. drinks / drops |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|

17. While I _____ to music, I _____ the doorbell.

- | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| A. listened /
heard | B. was listening /
heard | C. was listening /
was hearing | D. listened /
was hearing | E. listen / hear |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|