

ELTE Narrative tenses quiz 34

1. Yesterday, we _____(watch) TV when the lights went out.

- ☐ (A) watched
- ☐ (B) watching
- ☐ (C) had watched
- ☐ (D) were watching

2. By the time the movie started, they _____(already/eat) popcorn.

- ☐ (A) were already eating
- ☐ (B) already ate
- ☐ (C) had already eaten
- ☐ (D) have already eaten

3. She _____(write) her book by the time the deadline arrives.

- ☐ (A) writes
- ☐ (B) will write
- ☐ (C) will have written
- ☐ (D) has written

4. When I called him, he _____(read) a book.

- ☐ (A) read
- ☐ (B) was reading
- ☐ (C) has read
- ☐ (D) reads

5. Last week, I _____(meet) an old friend at the supermarket.

- ☐ (A) meet
- ☐ (B) met
- ☐ (C) had met
- ☐ (D) was meeting

6. By the time you arrive, we _____(finish) dinner.

- ☐ (A) will have finished
- ☐ (B) had finished
- ☐ (C) finished
- ☐ (D) will be finishing

7. After the guests _____(leave), we started cleaning up.

- ☐ (A) had left
- ☐ (B) were leaving
- ☐ (C) left
- ☐ (D) leave

8. While I _____(walk) in the park, it started to rain.

- ☐ (A) was walked
- ☐ (B) walked
- ☐ (C) walk
- ☐ (D) was walking

9. They _____(build) the house all year and completed it last month.

- ☐ (A) are building
- ☐ (B) build
- ☐ (C) have built
- ☐ (D) had been building

10. I _____(study) while they were having fun. It was really annoying.

- ☐ (A) studied
- ☐ (B) was studying
- ☐ (C) have studied
- ☐ (D) am studying

11. She _____(complete) her task by the time you call.

- ☐ (A) completes
- ☐ (B) have completed
- ☐ (C) completed
- ☐ (D) will have completed

12. When he arrived home, his parents _____(already/leave) to bed.

- ☐ (A) left
- ☐ (B) were leaving
- ☐ (C) had already left
- ☐ (D) leave

13. She _____(live) in Paris before she got her current job.

- ☐ (A) lived
- ☐ (B) lives
- ☐ (C) live
- ☐ (D) had lived

14. We _____(sit) in traffic for hours before we reached the concert.

- ☐ (A) sat
- ☐ (B) have sit
- ☐ (C) had been sitting
- ☐ (D) were sitting

15. He_____(hide) the truth about his cv for years before he was discovered.

- ☐ (A) was hiding
- ☐ (B) hid
- ☐ (C) have hidden
- ☐ (D) had been hiding

ELTE Narrative tenses quiz 34

1. Yesterday, we _____(watch) TV when the lights went out.

- ☐ A watched
- ☐ B watching
- ☐ C had watched
- ☒ D were watching

i Past continuous 'were watching' indicates an action interrupted by another past event. 'Watch TV' was ongoing when the lights went out.

2. By the time the movie started, they _____(already/eat) popcorn.

- ☐ A were already eating
- ☐ B already ate
- ☒ C had already eaten
- ☐ D have already eaten

i Past perfect 'had already eaten' shows the action was completed before the movie started. It's common to finish snacks before a film begins.

3. She _____(write) her book by the time the deadline arrives.

- ☐ A writes
- ☐ B will write
- ☒ C will have written
- ☐ D has written

i Future perfect 'will have written' indicates an action completed before a future time. For example: 'The book is completed by the deadline'.

4. When I called him, he _____(read) a book.

- ☐ A read
- ☒ B was reading
- ☐ C has read
- ☐ D reads

i Past continuous 'was reading' describes an ongoing action when another past event happened. Common in narratives.

5. Last week, I _____(meet) an old friend at the supermarket.

A meet

✓ **B** met

C had met

D was meeting

i Simple past 'met' conveys an action completed in the past. Single events in the past fit this tense.

6. By the time you arrive, we _____(finish) dinner.

✓ **A** will have finished

B had finished

C finished

D will be finishing

i Future perfect 'will have finished' indicates completion before a future point. In this case, finishing dining before someone's arrival.

7. After the guests _____(leave), we started cleaning up.

✓ **A** had left

B were leaving

C left

D leave

i Past perfect 'had left' is used for an action completed before another in the past. Clean-up starts after guest departure.

8. While I _____(walk) in the park, it started to rain.

A was walked

B walked

C walk

✓ **D** was walking

i Past continuous 'was walking' describes an ongoing action interrupted by rain. Common weather scenario.

9. They _____(build) the house all year and completed it last month.

A are building

B build

C have built

✓ D had been building

i Past perfect continuous 'had been building' highlights duration before another past event. Fits projects like house construction.

10. I _____(study) while they were having fun. It was really annoying.

A studied

✓ B was studying

C have studied

D am studying

i Past continuous for actions happening at the same time in the past, 'was studying' and 'were having fun' connected by 'while'.

11. She _____(complete) her task by the time you call.

A completes

B have completed

C completed

✓ D will have completed

i Future perfect 'will have completed' signifies an action finished before a future event, like a call. Notice the use of 'by' in the time expression.

12. When he arrived home, his parents _____(already/leave) to bed.

A left

B were leaving

✓ C had already left

D leave

i Past perfect 'had already left' emphasizes completion before another past event.

13. She _____(live) in Paris before she got her current job.

- ☐ **A** lived
- ☐ **B** lives
- ☐ **C** live
- ☒ **D** had lived

i Past perfect 'had lived' indicates an action completed before another past event.

14. We _____(sit) in traffic for hours before we reached the concert.

- ☐ **A** sat
- ☐ **B** have sit
- ☒ **C** had been sitting
- ☐ **D** were sitting

i Past perfect continuous 'had been sitting' conveys the duration of an ongoing action before another past event.

15. He_____(hide) the truth about his cv for years before he was discovered.

- ☐ **A** was hiding
- ☐ **B** hid
- ☐ **C** have hidden
- ☒ **D** had been hiding

i Past perfect continuous 'had been hiding' indicates an action which had happened another one in past 'was discovered'.