

□ ELTE Back to school! quiz 212 □

1. By the time the conference started, most of the participants _____ their seats.

- ☐ (A) were taking
- ☐ (B) took
- ☐ (C) have taken
- ☐ (D) had taken

2. I _____ home when I noticed that someone was following me.

- ☐ (A) was walking
- ☐ (B) had walked
- ☐ (C) walked
- ☐ (D) had been walked

3. She was tired because she _____ all morning without taking a break.

- ☐ (A) worked
- ☐ (B) had been working
- ☐ (C) was working
- ☐ (D) had worked

4. When I arrived at the restaurant, my friends _____ dinner.

- ☐ (A) were already ordered
- ☐ (B) have already ordered
- ☐ (C) had already ordered
- ☐ (D) already ordered

5. While the manager _____ to the client, one of the employees entered the room.

- ☐ (A) had spoken
- ☐ (B) had been spoken
- ☐ (C) spoke
- ☐ (D) was speaking

6. He _____ at the university for ten years before he decided to change careers.

- ☐ (A) had been teaching
- ☐ (B) taught
- ☐ (C) was teaching
- ☐ (D) has taught

7. We _____ the house before the storm destroyed the roof.

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

8. At 9 p.m. last night, I _____ for my final exam.

- ☐ (A) studied
- ☐ (B) had studied
- ☐ (C) had been studied
- ☐ (D) was studying

9. At 9 p.m. last night, I _____ for my final exam.

- ☐ (A) studied
- ☐ (B) had studied
- ☐ (C) had been studied
- ☐ (D) was studying

10. They _____ for over two hours when the technician finally fixed the problem.

- ☐ (A) had been waiting
- ☐ (B) waited
- ☐ (C) were waiting
- ☐ (D) had waited

11. After she _____ the email, she realised that she had attached the wrong document.

- ☐ (A) sent
- ☐ (B) was sending
- ☐ (C) had been sending
- ☐ (D) had sent

12. When the teacher entered the classroom, the students _____ loudly.

- ☐ (A) had talked
- ☐ (B) talked
- ☐ (C) were talking
- ☐ (D) had been talked

13. He couldn't open the door because he _____ his keys at home.

- ☐ (A) had left
- ☐ (B) was leaving
- ☐ (C) had been leaving
- ☐ (D) left

14. The roads were extremely slippery because it _____ heavily throughout the night.

- ☐ (A) rained
- ☐ (B) had rained
- ☐ (C) had been raining
- ☐ (D) was raining

15. I _____ the book twice before I finally understood its main argument.

- ☐ (A) was reading
- ☐ (B) had read
- ☐ (C) read
- ☐ (D) had been reading

□ ELTE Back to school! quiz 212 □

1. By the time the conference started, most of the participants _____ their seats.

- ☐ A were taking
- ☐ B took
- ☐ C have taken
- ☒ D had taken

i The participants took their seats before the conference started. We use the past perfect (had taken) to show that one past action happened before another past action.

2. I _____ home when I noticed that someone was following me.

- ☒ A was walking
- ☐ B had walked
- ☐ C walked
- ☐ D had been walked

i Walking was already in progress when I noticed someone. We use the past continuous (was walking) for an action that was happening at a particular moment in the past.

3. She was tired because she _____ all morning without taking a break.

- ☐ A worked
- ☒ B had been working
- ☐ C was working
- ☐ D had worked

i The activity continued for a period of time before another past moment, and the sentence focuses on its duration and result. Therefore, we use the past perfect continuous (had been working).

4. When I arrived at the restaurant, my friends _____ dinner.

- ☐ A were already ordered
- ☐ B have already ordered
- ☒ C had already ordered
- ☐ D already ordered

i The friends ordered their food before I arrived. The past perfect (had ordered) shows the earlier of two past actions. Already reinforces that the action was completed earlier.

5. While the manager _____ to the client, one of the employees entered the room.

A had spoken

B had been spoken

C spoke

☒ **D** was speaking

i The manager's conversation was in progress when the employee entered. We use the past continuous (was speaking) for the longer ongoing action.

6. He _____ at the university for ten years before he decided to change careers.

☒ **A** had been teaching

B taught

C was teaching

D has taught

i For ten years emphasises the duration of an activity that continued up to another point in the past. The past perfect continuous (had been teaching) is therefore the best choice.

7. We _____ the house before the storm destroyed the roof.

A left

☒ **B** had left

C were leaving

D have left

i Leaving the house happened before the storm destroyed the roof. We use the past perfect (had left) to show which past action happened first.

8. At 9 p.m. last night, I _____ for my final exam.

A studied

B had studied

C had been studied

☒ **D** was studying

i The sentence refers to an activity that was happening at a specific time in the past. We u

9. At 9 p.m. last night, I _____ for my final exam.

- A studied
- B had studied
- C had been studied
- ✓ D was studying

i The sentence refers to an activity that was happening at a specific time in the past. We use the past continuous (was studying).

10. They _____ for over two hours when the technician finally fixed the problem.

- ✓ A had been waiting
- B waited
- C were waiting
- D had waited

i The waiting continued for over two hours before the technician fixed the problem. The past perfect continuous emphasises the duration of the activity.

11. After she _____ the email, she realised that she had attached the wrong document.

- A sent
- B was sending
- C had been sending
- ✓ D had sent

i Sending the email happened before she realised her mistake. The past perfect (had sent) shows the earlier completed action.

12. When the teacher entered the classroom, the students _____ loudly.

- A had talked
- B talked
- ✓ C were talking
- D had been talked

i The students were already engaged in the activity when the teacher entered. The past continuous (were talking) describes an action in progress at that moment.

13. He couldn't open the door because he _____ his keys at home.

- ☒ **A** had left
- ☐ **B** was leaving
- ☐ **C** had been leaving
- ☐ **D** left

i He left his keys at home before he tried to open the door. The past perfect (had left) shows the earlier action and explains the later problem.

14. The roads were extremely slippery because it _____ heavily throughout the night.

- ☐ **A** rained
- ☐ **B** had rained
- ☒ **C** had been raining
- ☐ **D** was raining

i The rain continued over a period of time (throughout the night) and caused a result: slippery roads. The past perfect continuous (had been raining) emphasises both the duration and the result.

15. I _____ the book twice before I finally understood its main argument.

- ☐ **A** was reading
- ☒ **B** had read
- ☐ **C** read
- ☐ **D** had been reading

i Reading the book twice happened before the speaker finally understood the argument. We use the past perfect (had read) for completed actions that happened earlier.