

Practice Exercises - Past 3 (Past Perfect Simple/ Past Perfect Continuous)

Review the *Past Perfect Simple*, *Past Perfect Continuous* before doing the exercises.

Practice Exercises - Past 3 (Past Perfect Simple/ Past Perfect Continuous):

Choose the answer that is grammatically correct in the context of the sentence. There is only one correct answer.

1. When I met Sheila for the first time, she _____ Avon products for 2 years.
a. was selling
b. has been selling
c. **had been selling**
d. sells
2. Sandra decided to go to the doctor's yesterday because she _____ very well for two weeks.
a. 's not feeling
b. **hadn't been feeling**
c. weren't feeling
d. doesn't feel
3. I suddenly remembered that I _____ to bake a pie for dinner.
a. promise
b. was promised
c. was promising
d. **had promised**
4. How long _____ when he got married again?
a. was Sue divorcing
b. **had Sue been divorced**
c. has Sue been divorced
d. Sue was divorced
5. Yesterday afternoon, I arrived late at the train station, so the train _____.
a. has already left
b. had already been leaving
c. was already left
d. **had already left**
6. Tom bought a new car after he _____ paying his bank loan.
a. has finished
b. **had finished**
c. is finished
d. was finishing
7. I _____ to bed yet when the doorbell rang last night.
a. haven't gone
b. **hadn't gone**
c. wasn't
d. haven't been going
8. When World War II broke out, Sam _____ in Berlin since 1930.
a. **had been living**
b. lived
c. was living
d. is living
9. I'd worked in a coffee shop _____ five years before I started working in a travel agency.
a. since
b. until
c. **for**
d. from

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10. I was out of breath because I _____ ten kilometres.
a. had been running
b. had run
c. was running
d. run
11. By the time the boss arrived at work yesterday morning, his secretary _____ typing the report. It was on his desk.
a. was finishing
b. had been finishing
c. had finished
d. finish
12. Jill couldn't go to school yesterday because she _____ her leg the day before.
a. has broken
b. was broken
c. had been breaking
d. had broken
13. Bill: "Yesterday how long _____ when the train finally arrived?"
a. had you been waiting
b. were you waiting
c. do you wait
d. have you waited
14. It _____ to rain before we got home last night.
a. was begun
b. begun
c. begin
d. had begun
15. We _____ since early morning, so we were starving when we got home at night.
a. hadn't eaten
b. didn't eat
c. don't eat
d. weren't eating
16. Uncle Frank lived on the little money he _____ before his retirement.
a. saves
b. 's saving
c. 'd saved
d. been saving
17. After I _____ about 2 miles yesterday, I was tired and sweaty.
a. 've been jogging
b. 'd been jogging
c. 'd jogged
d. 'm jogging
18. All of Jane's guests _____ before, so she didn't have to introduce them to one another.
a. had met
b. had been meeting
c. meet
d. was meeting
19. Jackie _____ for three months so she felt confident the day of the exam.
a. study
b. was studying
c. studies
d. had been studying

Practice Exercises - Past 3 (Past Perfect Simple/ Past Perfect Continuous):

20. Janet wasn't feeling well because she _____ her medicine regularly.
a. hasn't been taking
b. hasn't taken
c. **hadn't been taking**
d. hadn't been taken
21. After Jane _____ the national anthem, the football game began.
a. has been singing
b. has sung
c. was singing
d. **had sung**
22. Louise _____ in Rome long when she decided to move to Florence.
a. hasn't been living
b. **hadn't been living**
c. wasn't living
d. doesn't live
23. After I _____ 20 e-mails, I decided to take a break.
a. had been writing
b. **had written**
c. was writing
d. write
24. The children weren't allowed to watch TV yesterday until they _____ their homework.
a. 'd been finishing
b. 've been finishing
c. **'d finished**
d. 've finished
25. Yesterday I _____ grass in the garden for an hour when suddenly my dog started barking.
a. 've been cutting
b. **'d been cutting**
c. cut
d. was cutting
26. Nora's father didn't let her go to her friend's party because she _____ two exams the day before.
a. 's failed
b. was failing
c. 'd been failing
d. **'d failed**
27. My hand hurt yesterday because I _____ over 50 wedding invitations.
a. 'd been writing
b. was writing
c. **'d written**
d. write
28. Al: "How long _____ with her sister when she decided to move out?" Beth: "Only one month."
a. has Sally been living
b. does Sally live
c. was Sally living
d. **had Sally been living**
29. I couldn't remember if I _____ my cell phone at work or at the restaurant last night.
a. **'d left**
b. 've been leaving
c. was leaving
d. 've left

Practice Exercises - Past 3 (Past Perfect Simple/ Past Perfect Continuous):

30. After I _____ all the arrangements for the meeting, I had to call it off because the boss had caught the flu.
- a. had been making
 - b. was making
 - c. had made
 - d. was made
31. Al was appointed marketing director for the Far East because he'd worked in the Orient _____ many years.
- a. since
 - b. for
 - c. until
 - d. from
32. I woke up in the middle of the night because I realized that I _____ to pay my taxes yesterday.
- a. am forgetting
 - b. had forgotten
 - c. had been forgetting
 - d. forgotten
33. When I arrived home at noon, my mother _____ a cake. It was on the table.
- a. was baking
 - b. bakes
 - c. had baked
 - d. has been baking