REVISION OF VERB TENSES

1. Choose the correct answer.

1) When we ….to the mountains, we stayed with my grandparents.
   a) Were going  b) went  c) go
2) The runner ….his leg when he fell down.
   a) Broke  b) break  c) was breaking
3) When we were there, we ….at a youth hostel.
   a) Weren’t staying  b) wasn’t staying  c) didn’t stay
4) Last week, we ….to Barcelona.
   a) Drove  b) were driving  c) was driving
5) While we ….the film on TV, the phone rang.
   a) Were watching  b) watched  c) were watched
6) She ….her homework all afternoon.
   a) Didn’t do  b) was doing  c) did

2. Fill in the blanks with the PAST SIMPLE or PAST CONTINUOUS form of the verbs in brackets. There may be more than one correct answer.

1) While Rob …..(practice) the cello, his brother …..(repair) his car.
2) When the dog …..(hear) the burglars, it …..(bark).
3) I …..(sleep) when the fire …..(break out)
4) All the children …..(shout) when the headmaster …..(come in)
5) Jack and Tine …..(play) outside when it …..(start) to snow.
6) Why …..(you / not pay attention) while I …..(talk) ?
7) Who …..(sing) so loudly while we …..(try) to sleep?
8) It …..(rain) when we …..(arrive) at the station.
9) I …..(write) a composition at the same time as my sister …..(play) tennis.
10) They …..(see) a good play while they …..(stay) in New York.
11) Yesterday, while I …..(have a rest), someone …..(ring) the doorbell.
12) We …..(have) such a good time that we …..(not want) to go home.

3. Can you correct the mistakes?

1) Why were you forgetting to buy milk?
2) She still slept when I phone her.
3) He kept interrupting while we had a discussion.
4) Where did she went?
5) We didn’t enjoyed the party last night.
6) How much you paid for this?
7) How long did you were waiting for the bus?
8) John didn’t used to like pizza.
9) I wasn’t understanding what you said.
10) We would to go camping every summer when I was young.

4. Choose the correct answer.

1) He received the Nobel Prize ten years …
   a) Since b) before c) ago d) recently
2) Has the postman been …?
   a) Yet b) just c) often d) always
3) A burglar has …broken into our flat.
   a) Just b) always c) often d) ever
4) My cousin has …bought a car. He’s out driving now.
   a) Often b) yet c) just d) always
5) She last saw him five years … . she can’t wait to see him again.
   a) Since b) just c) for d) ago
6) The committee hasn’t elected a chairman…. .
   a) Already b) ever c) often d) yet
7) She has …phoned. She won’t phone again till tomorrow.
   a) Just b) never c) ever d) yet
8) She’s a very responsible worker. She has …forgotten to do anything.
   a) Often b) recently c) always d) never
9) The girls have …arrived, but where are the boys?
   a) Recently b) only c) never d) already
10) I won’t be away …long.
    a) Before b) already c) for d) since
11) Have you …climbed a mountain?
    a) Often b) ever c) always d) yet
12) He has …felt so upset in his life.
    a) Always b) never c) yet d) already
13) She has worn black …her husband died.
    a) Since b) for c) recently d) yet
14) She has been busy …and hasn’t had enough time to see me.
    a) Always b) yet c) lately d) just
15) She left school three years … .
    a) Before b) ago c) since d) just

5. Fill in the blanks with: for, since, ago, yesterday or last week.

1) I have been out with her several times …………………………….. I met her.
2) George hasn’t ridden a bicycle ………………………………he was 15 years old.
3) Margaret hasn’t written to them…………………………they moved to New York.
4) He came over…………………………afternoon but I was too busy to speak to him.
5) She has had a headache…………………………two days.
6) Jim has loved basketball ever…………………………he was nine years old.
7) Jane last saw him a year………………………….
8) The last time I had a job interview was ten years………………………….
9) He celebrated his 90th birthday………………………….
10) I have listened to this programme regularly………………………….the last two years.

6. Fill in the blanks with the correct PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE or PAST SIMPLE form of the verbs in brackets.
1) The bus……………………………(leave) over half an hour ago.
2) I……………………………(lose) my pen.……………………………(you / see / it)?
3) She……………………………(spend) two months touring Europe last summer.
4)……………………………(you / read) any books by Stephen King?
6) Justin Gatlin……………………………(win) the 100 metres at the 2004 Olympics.
7) I……………………………(not speak) to him yet this morning.
8) Last week a new art gallery……………………………(open) in our neighbourhood.
9) I hate horror films, but my friend……………………………(always enjoy) them.
10) The police……………………………(not yet catch) the man who……………………………(break into) our flat.
11) We……………………………(not have) a holiday yet this year. Perhaps we’ll go on one soon.
12) Yesterday we……………………………(pull) an ad in the newspaper to sell our car. Five people……………………………(telephone) so far this morning.

7. Fill in the blanks with the PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE or PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS form of the verbs in brackets. There may be more than one correct answer.
1) I……………………………(own) this car since 2002.
2) Carol……………………………(try) to contact her doctor twice today, and Jim……………………………(try) since yesterday.
3) The detectives……………………………(investigate) the robbery for months now, but they……………………………(not solve) it yet.
4) Mrs Smith……………………………(tour) Italy for the last three weeks. She……………………………(visit) the Learning Tower of Pisa and she……………………………(climb) to the top of St Peter’s in Rome.
5) In the last few weeks, I……………………………(have) problems with my car. I……………………………(have) this car for over ten years and I……………………………(drive) it all these years without any problems. However, for the last few weeks it……………………………(break down) regularly.

8. Choose the correct answer.
1) How long …in the garden?
a) Is he standing  
b) has he been standing  
c) does he stand  
d) he stands

2) The teacher …the tests yet.  
a) Didn’t check  
b) hasn’t been checking  
c) hasn’t checked  
d) doesn’t check

3) Mr Jackson …to London on business for a week.  
a) Has been going  
b) goes  
c) has gone  
d) was going

4) The Browns …to a new house.  
a) Have moved  
b) has moved  
c) have been moving  
d) move

5) Who …my bag? It’s not where I left it.  
a) Was taking  
b) has been taken  
c) has been taking  
d) has taken

6) Many people …her gallery since it opened.  
a) Have visited  
b) are visiting  
c) have been visiting  
d) visit

7) Look at the baby! He …chocolate again.  
a) Was eaten  
b) has been eating  
c) eats  
d) ate

8) John …for your for over two hours!  
a) Am waiting  
b) waits  
c) has been waiting  
d) wait

9. Can you correct the mistakes?

1) I haven’t seen him since before two years.
2) We have been to the USA last summer.
3) Ronnie is sleeping for three hours.
4) She has been my friend since we’ve been young.
5) We know each other for ten years.
6) When have you received the letter?
7) How long are you waiting here?
8) Have you enjoyed the film last night?
9) He has been calling you three times today.
10) She is learning French since 2004.

10. Fill in the blanks with the PAST PERFECT SIMPLE, PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS or PAST SIMPLE form of the verbs in brackets.

1) They ………………….(walk) for about 10 minutes when they suddenly ……………………..(realize) that the stadium was in the other direction.
2) The sun …………………………………..(shine) all day when it suddenly ……………………………..(begin) to rain.
3) Tom and Sharon …………………………………..(love) each other for years before they finally ……………………..(get married)
4) We ……………………………………….(drive) all day before we …………………………………….(decide) to stop for a meal.
5) The man ……………………………………….(write) short stories for nearly ten years before he ………………………………..(decide) to publish them.
6) Although he ………………………………………..(sing) many times as a teenager, he …………………………………………..(not record) anything until he was in his 20s.
7) She …………………………………………..(walk) for several hours when suddenly she …………………………………………. (faint)
8) Because he (travel) for several weeks, he (become) used to hotel food.
9) He (be) ill for a week before he (go) to see the doctor.
10) The baby (cry) for an hour before her mother (take) her to the doctor.

11. Fill in the PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS or PAST CONTINUOUS of the verbs in brackets.

   1) We looked outside, where heavy rain (still fall).
   2) I (lie) on the sofa when suddenly the doorbell rang.
   3) I could see she (cry) because her eyes were red.
   4) Five minutes after we arrived, John got a phone-call. By two o’clock he (talk) on the phone for over an hour.
   5) The woman was standing impatiently at the corner. She (wait) for someone for 20 minutes.
   6) By the time a doctor came, the child (scream) for an hour.
   7) We could see he (rest) so we didn’t disturb him.
   8) The painters (still paint) the walls when Jim came home.

12. Choose the correct answer.

   The two thieves were sure that they (1 committed, had committed, have committed) the perfect crime. No one would ever know (2 what, who, why) had stolen the King’s jewels. But they (3 forgot, have forgotten, had forgotten) about the Ace Team, a team of experts who (4 never, always, didn’t) solved every case. The thieves drove (5 quick, quite, quickly) to the airport. They wanted to (6 live, left, leave) the country as soon as possible. They waited in a queue to buy their (7 ticket, tourists, trouble). They didn’t know that a member of the Ace Team (8 waited, was waiting, waits) for them. While they (9 are buying, were buying, bought) their tickets, the team member called her colleagues, who arrived immediately and took (10 her, them, themselves) to jail. The two thieves hadn’t committed the perfect crime after all.

13. Choose the correct answer.

   Did you know that people (1 had rode, had been riding, have been riding, rode) bicycles for a long time? Well, by the time cycling (2 became, has become, had become, have become) an Olympic even in 1896, people (3 rode, have been riding, have ridden, had been riding) bicycles for over a hundred years. In recent years, however, the popularity of cycling as a sport (4 had increased, had been increasing, has increased, increased). One of the reasons is the changes that (5 have taken place, had taken place, took place, had been taking place) in the design of bicycles. (6 In the last 30 years, In the 1970’s, Since the 1970’s, Already) scientists developed stronger, lighter materials for building bicycles. As a result, people began to ride their bikes over difficult tracks that they (7 haven’t used, didn’t use, haven’t been using, hadn’t used) before. Some years ago, a French cyclist named Patrick Carn (8 has invented, has been inventing, invented, had invented) a bicycle known as the Caterpillar, which can be ridden on snow and sand. Since then, cyclists (9 have used, have been using, had been using, had used) the Caterpillar successfully in a number of major sporting events.