

PRACTICE 8. Test A: Verb tenses. (Chapters 1 → 5)

Directions: Choose the correct answer.

Example: I've been in this city for a long time. I C here sixteen years ago.

- A. have come B. was coming C. came D. had come

1. "Hurry up! We're waiting for you. What's taking you so long?"
"I _____ for an important phone call. Go ahead and leave without me."

- A. wait B. will wait C. am waiting D. have waited

2. "Robert is going to be famous someday. He _____ in three movies already."

"I'm sure he'll be a star."

- A. has been appearing B. has appeared
C. has appeared D. appeared

3. "Where's Polly?"

"She _____."

- A. is in her room studying C. studies in her room
B. is in her room is studying D. has in her room studied

4. "Hello? Alice? This is Jeff. How are you?"

"Jeff? What a coincidence! I _____ about you when the phone rang."

- A. was just thinking B. was just thought
C. have just been thinking D. was just thought

5. "What _____ about the new simplified tax law?"

"It's more confusing than the old one."

- A. are you thinking C. have you thought
B. do you think D. have you been thinking

6. "When is Mr. Fields planning to retire?"

"Soon, I think. He _____ here for a long time. He'll probably retire either next year or the year after that."

- A. worked C. has been working
B. had been working D. is working

7. "Why did you buy all this sugar and chocolate?"

"I _____ a delicious dessert for dinner tonight."

- A. make C. am going to make
B. will make D. will have made

8. "Let's go! What's taking you so long?"

"I'll be there as soon as I _____ my keys."

- A. found B. will find C. find D. am finding

9. Next week when there _____ a full moon, the ocean tides will be higher.

- A. is being B. is C. will be D. will have been

10. While I _____ TV last night, a mouse ran across the floor.

- A. watch B. watched C. was watching D. am watching

11. Fish were among the earliest forms of life. Fish _____ on earth for ages and ages.

- A. existed B. are existing C. exist D. have existed

12. The phone _____ constantly since Jack announced his candidacy for president this morning.

- A. has been ringing C. had rung
B. rang D. had been ringing

13. The earth _____ on the sun for its heat and light.

- A. is depend B. depending C. has depend D. depends

14. I don't feel good. I _____ home from work tomorrow.

- A. am staying B. stay C. will have stayed D. stayed

15. Today there are weather satellites that beam down information about the earth's atmosphere. In the last two decades, space exploration _____ great contributions to weather forecasting.

- A. is making B. has made C. made D. makes

16. On July 20, 1969, Astronaut Neil Armstrong _____ down onto the moon, the first person ever to set foot on another celestial body.

- A. was stepping B. stepped C. has stepped D. was step

17. The plane's departure was delayed because of mechanical difficulties. When the weary passengers finally boarded the aircraft, many were annoyed and irritable because they _____ in the airport for three and a half hours.

- A. are waiting C. have been waiting
B. were waiting D. had been waiting

18. If coastal erosion continues to take place at the present rate, in another fifty years this beach _____ anymore.

- A. doesn't exist C. isn't existing
B. isn't going to exist D. won't be existing

19. Homestead High School's football team _____ a championship until last season, when the new coach led them to win first place in their league.

- A. has never won C. had never been winning
B. is never winning D. had never won

20. Non-native speakers need many years of intensive language study before they can qualify as interpreters. By the end of this year, Chen _____ English for three years, but he will still need more training and experience before he masters the language.

- A. will be studying C. will have been studying
B. has studied D. has been studying