

THEME 3 HARD TIMES GRAMMAR EXERCISES

A. Choose the correct option which has the similar meaning.

1. I went back to school when I recovered from the bad cold.
 - a. I was having a bad cold when I went back to school.
 - b. After I had recovered from the bad cold, I went back to school.
2. Nick helped me a lot as I was trying to overcome the hard times.
 - a. While I was trying to overcome the hard times, Nick helped me.
 - b. Before Nick helped me, I overcame the hard times.
3. While you were lying on the beach last summer, I was working.
 - a. During the summer holiday you were lying on the beach and I was working.
 - b. Before I worked last summer, you were lying on the beach.
4. When the teacher asked me a question, I was enjoying a daydream.
 - a. The teacher asked me a question, then I started daydreaming.
 - b. I started daydreaming before the teacher asked me a question.
5. As he was performing on the stage, the audience were applauding strongly.
 - a. While the audience were applauding strongly, he was performing on the stage.
 - b. After he performed on the stage, the audience applauded strongly.
6. She inspired her students to succeed while she was giving a speech.
 - a. She inspired her students to succeed before she gave a speech.
 - b. As she was giving a speech

B. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs.

1. I _____ (talk) to the school counsellor when you _____ (call) me.
2. While she _____ (prepare) for the exam, she _____ (be) mostly stressed with her parents' pressure.
3. What _____ (you / look) at when you _____ (crash) your car into a tree?
4. Nick _____ (have) a hard time as his friends _____ (make) fun of him.
5. The doctor _____ (not prescribe) any medication when she _____ (see) the small cut on my hand.
6. _____ (you / get) help from an expert while you _____ (try) to get rid of your cyber addiction?

C. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs.

It was a hot sunny day when Jason Wilson, an adventurous mountain climber, went hiking in Maple Canyon, Utah. He (1) _____ (not tell) anyone where he was going. And he (2) _____ (not take) his mobile phone with him when he (3) _____ (set out) on his journey. While he (4) _____ (climb) up a cliff without safety ropes, he (5) _____ (fall down) and hurt his back badly. He (6) _____

_____ (try) to get up, but it (7) _____ (be) impossible. When he (8) _____ (understand) that he wasn't able to move, he (9) _____ (start) to shout for help. Unfortunately, there was no one around and he spent the whole day lying on the ground. When the sun (10) _____ (come up), Jason (11) _____ (open) his eyes and (12) _____ (see) a group of climbers standing next to him. They weren't there just because they heard the screams for help. They had to change their route because of a tree that closed their way. The climbers (13) _____ (save) his life thanks to a tree.

D. Choose the correct options.

1. Did you _____ an eating disorder when you were a child?

- a. used to have b. use to had c. use to have

2. I learned how to avoid things that _____ me before.

- a. used to stress b. use to stress c. used to stressing

3. My grandmother _____ positive when she went through a difficult time.

- a. didn't used to stay b. use to stay c. used to stay

4. Before I started doing yoga, I _____ that every cloud has a silver lining.

- a. didn't used to believe b. didn't use to believe c. didn't use to believed

5. Who _____ for help when you couldn't find a solution by yourself?

- a. did you use to ask b. did you used to asked c. were you use to ask

E. Complete the text with the verbs from the box in the past simple.

have / get / look for / find / happen / be / realize / start

On a summer day in 1986, my younger sister and I, at that time aged 4 and 5, were playing with our dolls. We _____ alone at home because our parents were at work. After I had the idea to give the dolls some hairstyle change, I _____ the scissors with great determination. I don't know how I found them in the end but I remember I cut all the dolls' hair. We had great fun and liked the result so much that I _____ to cut my sister's hair in the same style. She had gorgeous black straight hair. Our parents _____ my sister with a winter hat on when they came home later. Since it was summer, they thought it was a game of ours at first. However, they _____ that something was wrong when my sister insisted on wearing it all night. Imagine the surprise they had when they discovered what _____. They _____ a bit angry and mum had to take my sister to a hairdresser's. Having felt guilty at first, we _____ a joyful memory to remember. Well, my sister and I can't remember much of all this but we can imagine how funny it was because we still have the dolls with my 'stylish haircut' on.

F. Put the verbs in brackets into the simple past or the past continuous tense.

1. The car _____ (go) fast when it _____ (hit) the pole.

2. Just as I _____ (wear) my contact lenses, I _____ (drop) one of them.

3. Who _____ you _____ (talk) to when I _____ (call) you?

4. While my father _____ (read) his newspaper, my mother _____ (iron) the clothes.

5. When the electricity _____ (go off), the lift _____ (stop).

6. As I _____ (climb) the stairs fast, I _____ (fall) down.

THEME 3 HARD TIMES GRAMMAR EXERCISES ANSWER KEY

A. Choose the correct option which has the similar meaning.

1. b
2. a
3. a
4. b
5. a
6. b

B. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs.

1. was talking / called
2. was preparing / was
3. were you looking / crashed
4. was having / were making
5. didn't prescribe / saw
6. did you get / were trying

C. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs.

1. didn't tell
2. didn't take
3. set out
4. was climbing
5. fell down
6. tried
7. was
8. understood
9. started
10. came up
11. opened
12. saw
13. saved

D. Choose the correct options.

1. c
2. a
3. c
4. b
5. a

E. Complete the text with the verbs from the box in the past simple.

1. were
2. looked for
3. started
4. found
5. realized
6. happened
7. got
8. had

F. Put the verbs in brackets into the simple past or the past continuous tense.

1. was going / hit
2. was wearing / dropped
3. were talking / called
4. was reading / was ironing
5. went off / stopped
6. was climbing / fell