**8. EXPRESSING THE PAST**

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**Let’s Get Started:**

**Match the actions in column-A with the descriptions of the actions in column-B:**

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| **Column-A** | **Column-B** |
| 1. By the time Pratim turned fifty, he had been painting for forty years. | **c)** action going on over a period of time in the past. |
| **2.** Pratim painted only landscapes until last year. | **b)** habitual past action |
| **3.** Pratim had painted a cityscape of Mumbai last year which sold for a huge sum. | **d)** an action that took place before another action in the past |
| **4.** Pratim finished a painting yesterday. | **a)** an action which happened in the recent past |

1. **Complete the passage with the Simple Past Tense of the given verbs:**

It **was** wonder of nature. Three leopards in an African forests **played** with a young fawn, but they **did** not harm him. The fawn **walked** around the predators on unsteady legs, while they **clicked** the little thing. After a while, they **let** it go. Was it one of those incredible stories of predators who **turned** nurturers? The wildlife photographer who **captured** the incredible incident **disagreed**. ‘I think both parties were just curious’. The photos soon **made** their way into social media. ‘Leopards show Bambi some love’, **declared** the newspaper headlines.

1. **Read the sentences and rewrite them with *used to:***
2. Grandma **used to walk** four kilometers every day in the morning to go to school.
3. She **used to study** hard and did well in class.
4. She **used to go** to St Mary’s School.
5. She **used to play** with her friends in the evening.
6. She **used to listen** to stories told by her mother at night.
7. **Fill in the blanks with the Simple Past or the Present Perfect Tense of the given verbs:**
8. Rupa **finished** her MA in 2005. She **has joined** the University of Reading for her PhD.
9. She **has never gone** to the United Kingdom but she **lived** in the USA for a year as an exchange student.
10. While walking down a crowded street, she loudly exclaimed, ‘Oh no! I **have lost** my phone!’
11. Jonas **read** seven books last week.
12. Thomas **visited** Australia when he was young.
13. The ship’s crew **launched** the lifeboats as soon as they noticed that the vessel had developed a fault.
14. Sana and Rosa **have lived** in eight countries, so they know a lot about the cultures of different nations.
15. Ouch! I just **cut** my hand using the can opener.
16. **Fill in the blanks with the Simple Past or the Past Continuous Tense of the given verbs:**
17. When I **reached** home, everyone **was sleeping**.
18. While travelling to Delhi by train, we **made** lots of new friends.
19. Although it **was snowing**, the plane **took off**.
20. Katrina **was cycling** when she **had** an accident.
21. The grandchildren **were wrapping** birthday gifts when their grandfather **walked** into the room.
22. I **was walking** home yesterday evening when the lights **went** off.
23. Sindhu **was sitting** in a café when you **called**.
24. Who **was waiting** for Vinod when he arrived at the dentist’s clinic?
25. **Fill in the blanks with the Simple Past or the Past Perfect Tense of the given verbs:**
26. I’m sure I **had turned** the gas off before I **went** to the gym.
27. She **had thought** of inviting many people to the party initially, but she **changed** her mind later.
28. Geeta **had lived** in Delhi all her life until she **moved** to Kolkata.
29. Dhanush told us that he **had already sold** his house.
30. I **had already waited** for the taxi for an hour before I **realised** that it wasn’t coming.
31. The student **had completed** several chapters by the time the teachers **informed** them that the exam had been cancelled.
32. James **exclaimed** that he **had forgotten** to bring the birthday gift.
33. Suneet **had finished** his assignments, so he **came** to watch a film with us.
34. **Fill in the blanks with the Simple Past or the Past Perfect Continuous Tense of the given verbs:**
35. My sister **had been trying** to repair the cooler all day.
36. Sidney **had been singing** for two years before he **met** David and they **had formed** a band together.
37. I **had been studying** for two hours by the time the clock **struck** one.
38. When I **became** friends with Dinesh and Shobhna in 2009, the brother-sister duo **had been taking** care of animals at their shelter for ten years.
39. Sarah **had been practising** her badminton shots for an hour.
40. Eighty-year-old Savitri **had been narrating** stories of her childhood in Lahore to her granddaughter when the little girl **asked** her a question.
41. **Complete the passage with the correct Past tenses of the given verbs:**
42. The ferry **waited** at its usual post by the ghat. It **was** 1 o’clock. By that time, the flower seller **had peddled** her wares for two hours, the fruit seller **had been doing** brisk business through the day. His mangoes **were** especially popular. No one knew when it **happened**, but all of a sudden, there **was** a shrill cry, followed by shouts of ‘Help! Get him out of the water!’ The cry **was** that of a mother. A minute ago, she **was minding** her younger son and **had noticed** that the elder one **was inching** towards the water as he **was playing**. The boy’s saviour **was** an unlikely one. One of the stray dogs who **hung** around the ghat in the hopes of scraps thrown by passersby **jumped** into the water as soon as he **saw** the boy fall in. The brave creature **held** on to the boy’s shirt by his teeth and **dragged** him back to the ghat. Why **did** he do it? Perhaps it **was** universal kindness that binds all God’s creatures together.

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**Let Us Write**

**Complete the following sentences meaningfully:**

1. Vimal had finished his breakfast before **Shyama came to meet him**.
2. Meenal went to the USA after **she had finished her schooling in India.**
3. Teena hadn’t studied French before **she came to the English and Foreign Languages University.**
4. My mother didn’t say anything until she heard the full story**.**
5. By the time he got a taxi, it **had already become quite dark.**
6. She lived here for four years before **she got transferred to Mumbai**.