

I. Present Perfect and Past Simple: put the verbs in brackets in their correct form, change the word order where necessary.

1. Peter (try) _____ to read a text message discreetly, but his teacher (see) _____ it and (say) _____, 'How many times I (tell) _____ you to switch off your mobiles before coming to the class?'
2. 'I just (buy) _____ a copy of "The Elegant Universe". You (read) _____ it?'
'As it happens it's the only one of Greene's books that I (not read) _____. But I (see) _____ an interview with him talking about it last year.'
3. 'You (see) _____ Philip lately? I (ring) _____ his flat several times last week but (get) _____ no answer.'
'Oh, he (be) _____ in America for the last month. He (fly) _____ out on the first for a conference and then (decide) _____ to stay for 6 weeks.'
'You (hear) _____ from him?'
'Yes, I (get) _____ a letter shortly after he (arrive) _____.'
4. In 2005 scientists (measure) _____ a land temperature of 70.7°C in the Lut Desert of Iran. This is the only time scientists (record) _____ such a temperature.
5. A team of Russian scientists just (complete) _____ a five-year study of the behavioural patterns of three Siberian wolf packs.
6. Research (demonstrate) _____ that people can delay the onset of type two diabetes by losing weight.
7. Steven Hawking (write) _____ many books, exploring profound questions about the universe.
8. Richard Feynman (try) _____ to explain the mysterious forces behind ordinary things.

II. Past tenses; complete the following sentences using the correct form of the past simple of the verbs

A. LIE, LAY and LIE (as a regular verb)

1. They the groundwork for future development.
2. The book open on his desk.
3. Yesterday, I mis my keys and I cannot remember where I put them.
4. Hi parents money aside for his education.
5. The student about the sources of her Bachelor's work.

B. FIND ; FALL ; FOUND ; FEEL ; WOUND ; WIND ; COST

1. The number of university students by 30 per cent.
2. A new computer around \$1,000.
3. David no guilt at all for what he had done.
4. Charles IV the university in 1348.
5. She was trying to publish her paper, but the string of rejections really her pride.
6. The UK study that 92.4 per cent of university professors are white.
7. We up the meeting with a vote of thanks to the chairman.
8. I never at ease when speaking in public.
9. Their accountants the project at \$8.1 million.

III. Complete the sentences below with the right past tense. Some words might need to be reordered.

A.

When I (open) _____ the door I (see) _____ a man on his knees. He clearly (listen) _____ to our conversation and I (wonder) _____ how much he (hear) _____. When I (ask) _____ him what he (do) _____, he (answer) _____ he (drop) _____ a 50p piece and (look) _____ for it. I (not see) _____ any sign of money, but I (find) _____ a small notebook and a pencil which he probably (drop) _____ when the door (open) _____ suddenly. So he (take) _____ notes of our conversation! The notes (be) _____ written in a foreign language, so I (turn) _____ to the stranger and (ask) _____ him to translate. But he (pull) _____ my hat over my eyes and (run) _____ off down the corridor. By the time I (recover) _____ from the shock he (disappear) _____ round the corner. Curiously enough, when I (move) _____ my feet I (find) _____ that I (stand) _____ on a 50p piece. Perhaps he (tell) _____ the truth after all.

B.

1. Many important scientists, like Faraday, Tyndall or Rutheford (give) _____ public speeches at the Royal Institution in London.
2. Professor Bernard (know) _____ immediately that her team (make) _____ a significant discovery.
3. The report (conclude) _____ that no side effects were apparent in the patients who (receive) _____ low doses of the new medicine.

4. Researchers (hope) _____ to complete their study by 2010, but (find) _____ that they (not have) _____ sufficient data.
5. The team just (leave) _____ the lab when the fire (break) _____ out, so there were no injuries.
6. James Lott (describe) _____ the trip as a failure as they (expect) _____ to discover at least three new species of insect.
7. The professor (describe) _____ a graph on the slide when a mobile (ring) _____. Somebody (forget) _____ to switch it off.
8. Petroleum Products finally (admit) _____ that the crude oil (leak) _____ from their tanker for more than a week.
9. The researchers (make) _____ excellent progress when the government (cut) _____ the grant.

Sources: adapted from

Online grammar exercises for ESF students at MU

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