

TENSE SHIFT

Directions: Choose the option that corrects an error in the underlined portion(s). If no error exists, choose “No change is necessary.”

1. Aunt Lillian ^(A) had frozen four quarts of her homegrown strawberries, but she ^(B) lost them after the hurricane ^(C) was knocking out power for eight days.
 - A. froze
 - B. had lost
 - C. knocked
 - D. No change is necessary.
2. Because Sammy had been eating all of the chocolate mint ice cream before she got home, Roxanne whacked him over the head.
 - A. ate
 - B. was eating
 - C. had eaten
 - D. No change is necessary.
3. Carlos ^(A) pawed at his hair and ^(B) shook his head, but he ^(C) cannot dislodge the giant spider tangled in the curls.
 - A. was pawing
 - B. was shaking
 - C. could not
 - D. No change is necessary.

4. Grandpa planted a backyard garden, hoping that it **was helping** with the high cost of food.
- A. will help
 - B. would help
 - C. helped
 - D. No change is necessary.
5. When Gretchen ^(A) **was** a freshman, she ^(B) **wanted** to major in biology, but after her first rat dissection, she ^(C) **couldn't** change her major to English fast enough.
- A. had been
 - B. was wanting
 - C. cannot
 - D. No change is necessary.
6. Everyone **is sleeping** soundly when Brendan dropped the glass pitcher of lemonade on the stone tiles of the kitchen floor.
- A. had been sleeping
 - B. slept
 - C. would sleep
 - D. No change is necessary.
7. Ancient Egyptians ^(A) **spent** their entire lives preparing for their death and burial. Today, however, people ^(B) **are thinking** that funerals ^(C) **are** too morbid to plan far in advance.
- A. were spending
 - B. think
 - C. would be
 - D. No change is necessary.

8. When Felicia saw the turtle trying to cross the busy road, she leaped out of her car and **had carried** the reptile to safety at the other side.
- A. was carrying
 - B. carried
 - C. will carry
 - D. No change is necessary.
9. In battle, George Washington ^(A) **believed** that he was invincible. He ^(B) **rode** a conspicuous white horse that made him easy to spot, yet no bullet ^(C) **had hit** him, proving his invulnerability.
- A. had believed
 - B. was riding
 - C. hit
 - D. No change is necessary.
10. We **would have** bite marks on our ankles and scratches on our thighs ever since adopting Nelson, our feisty kitten.
- A. had
 - B. have
 - C. will have
 - D. No change is necessary.

