

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 had frozen four quarts of her homegrown strawberries, but she lost them after the hurricane was knocking out power for eight days.
A B C
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 pawed at his hair and shook his head, but he cannot dislodge the giant spider tangled in his curls.
A B C
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 was a freshman, she wanted to major in biology, but after her first rat dissection, she couldn't change her major fast enough.
A B C
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 spent their entire lives preparing for their death and burial. Today, however, people are thinking that such arrangements are morbid and impolite to discuss.
- A
B C
- 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. George Washington believed that he was invincible in battle. He rode a conspicuous white horse that made him an easy target, yet no bullet had hit him, validating his conviction of invulnerability.
- A B
C
- 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.

