

# Tenses exercise

Complete the following sentences using an appropriate verb form that indicates the idea given in the brackets.

1. My mother ..... up at 5 am.  
(Habitual action in the past)

gets  
got  
used to get

2. Worldly pleasures ..... temporary.  
(General truth)

are  
were  
have been

3. Portia ..... that mercy is a divine quality. (General truth)

says  
said  
has said

4. They ..... for the program. (Action

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in progress)

have rehearsed

are rehearsing

5. None of us ..... Shakespeare.

saw

seen

have seen

6. His father ..... last month.  
(Completed action)

died

has died

had died

7. I ..... ready. (Action going on at the  
moment of speaking)

got

was getting

am getting

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8. When I was young, I ..... football every day. (Habitual action in the past)

was playing  
have played  
used to play

9. When we ..... a thief ..... into our house.

slept, broke  
were sleeping, broke  
are sleeping, breaks

10. If I ..... hard, I .....  
(Unfulfilled condition)

worked, would pass  
had worked, would have passed  
have worked, will have passed

## Answers

1. My mother used to get up at 5 am.

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2. Worldly pleasures are temporary.
3. Portia says that mercy is a divine quality.
4. They are rehearsing for the program.
5. None of us have seen Shakespeare.
6. His father died last month.
7. I am getting ready.
8. When I was young, I used to play football every day.
9. When we were sleeping, a thief broke into our house.
10. If I had worked hard, I would have passed.