

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate past tense form of the verbs in brackets:

1. By the time we reached the station, the train _____ (leave).
2. She didn't expect that her research paper _____ (receive) such appreciation from the jury.
3. When the earthquake struck, most of the villagers _____ (sleep) in their homes.
4. I had read the novel twice before I finally _____ (understand) its complex symbolism.
5. The students waited patiently for the professor, who _____ (not/arrive) even after an hour.
6. He had worked in the company for five years when he suddenly _____ (resign) without notice.
7. As soon as she finished her performance, the audience _____ (stand) up in applause.
8. The soldiers fought bravely until they _____ (run) out of ammunition.
9. We didn't realise that someone _____ (follow) us until we reached the old alley.
10. The scientist dedicated his life to research and _____ (achieve) several breakthroughs before he passed away.
11. While I was walking through the museum, a strange painting _____ (catch) my attention.
12. They had planned the event for weeks, but everything _____ (go) wrong at the last moment.
13. She had never seen snow before she _____ (travel) to Switzerland last year.
14. The lawyer presented strong evidence, but the judge _____ (remain) unconvinced.
15. He didn't know that his childhood friend _____ (become) a famous author.