

2 Past tenses

3 Choose the correct form of the verbs in this text.

My granny is 93 and she's come to live with us at our house. We're all pleased because we love having her near us. She's a very independent person and until this year, she (1) *refused / was refusing* to move to the flat on our ground floor. But last month she suddenly (2) *changed / was changing* her mind and I (3) *asked / would ask* her why. She explained that for years, nobody in her village (4) *would lock / was locking* their front doors and the place (5) *used to feel / would feel* safe, but last month (6) she *met / was meeting* a neighbour in the street when she (7) *was walking / would walk* home from the shops and (8) *heard / was hearing* some bad news. Thieves (9) *were breaking / got used to breaking* into people's houses while they (10) *were sitting / would sit* in their back gardens.

She (11) *realised / was realising* that she (12) *wasn't wanting / didn't want* to live alone any more. She (13) *isn't used / didn't use* to being in the town yet, but it's not as difficult as she (14) *was thinking / thought* it might be, and she loves seeing us more often.

4 Fill in the gaps with a suitable form of *be/get used to*.

- Rita's very tired this morning. She isn't used to (not) going to bed late.
- Don't worry about the children: they _____ going to school by bus.
- My new boss _____ giving orders, not receiving them.
- She _____ (not) drinking very strong coffee and it made her ill.
- _____ (you) our climate or do you still miss the sunshine?
- I had never stayed in such an expensive hotel before, but I soon _____ it.

5 Complete these sentences by Cambridge First candidates with the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs.

- Don't ask me about the concert! I was working (work) in the stadium café when the band was playing (play).
- I _____ (look) round the palace when a man _____ (stop) me to ask for directions.
- The lights _____ (go) out while she _____ (have) a party in her house.
- She _____ (go) quietly out of her bedroom and _____ (stand) behind the door so she could hear what they were saying.
- I _____ (hope) my colleagues would say 'happy birthday' when I got to work, but nobody _____ (say) anything.

6 Correct the mistakes with *used to* in these sentences by Cambridge First candidates.

- When I was a child I ~~am used~~ to go camping. used
- My parents used to often take me to the zoo. _____
- They didn't used to help their parents with housework, but now they do. _____
- We use to go to the beach every day last summer. _____
- Helen is a teacher at a primary school, so she used to teach children. _____
- I would like to be a sports instructor because I was used to train tennis players before I came to England. _____