Reading

'Love hit me when I was twelve. I was still in shorts but little hairs were starting to grow on my upper lip. A young girl, Lucy, lived in the flat above ours. She was pretty with lovely, brown hair and perfect teeth. One day, after I had saved my pocket money for some time, I invited Lucy to go to a variety show with me. I only had seventy cents but I had worked it all out: two tickets for the theatre, fifty cents, and four tram tickets, twenty cents.

It was January and it had snowed earlier that day so we took the tram. Lucy looked charming and I looked handsome as we got off in Times Square. Unfortunately, a candy vendor was standing outside the theatre. I hadn't thought about that. Lucy saw her favourite coconut candy and asked for it. Like a fool, I bought it for ten cents.

We were miles away from the stage and the noise of Lucy eating her candy was louder than the actors' voices. During the performance, Lucy ate every single bit of the candy. On the way out, I was a bit upset about the candy. But then I realised I only had enough money for one ticket back home. Today I feel terrible about this, but remember, I was only twelve, it was very cold and Lucy had eaten all the candy.

I turned to her and said, "Lucy, when we left home I had seventy cents, enough for the tickets and the tram fare. I hadn't planned on candy. I didn't want candy. You wanted candy and you had all the candy. I have every right to go home by tram and leave you to walk. But, you know I'm mad about you. So I'm going to give you a fair chance. I'm going to toss this coin. If it's heads, you get to ride home. If it's tails, I ride home." It was tails. For some curious reason, Lucy never spoke to me again. What had I done wrong?'

(From *Grouncho and Me*, by Groucho Marx)

1 **Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.**

1 ☐ Groucho waited for some time before he invited Lucy out because he was nervous.
2 ☐ He offered to buy Lucy some candy.
3 ☐ He was upset because Lucy ate all the candy.
4 ☐ Lucy went home by tram.
5 ☐ She was angry with him.

Presentation

2 **Complete the table with: *hadn't, had, snowed, planned, eaten, saved.***

PAST PERFECT

Affirmative
It had [1]_____ earlier that day.
Lucy had [2]_____ all the candy.

Negative
I [3]_____ thought about that.
I [4]_____ [5]_____ on candy.

Question
Had he [6]_____ any money?
What [7]_____ I done wrong?

3 **Put the activities below in the order in which they really happened. What tenses are used in the story to refer to each activity?**

a I was upset about the candy.
b I bought the candy.
c Lucy ate all the candy.
d I didn't plan on the candy.
e It snowed.
f I realised I had money for one ticket.
g We took the tram.
h I invited Lucy to the theatre.

4 **Read the sentences (1–3).**

1 *I **had worked** it all out: two tickets for the theatre, fifty cents, and four tram tickets, twenty cents.*
2 *I **bought** the candy for ten cents.*
3 *A candy vendor **was standing** outside the theatre.*

Which tense talks about:

a a single event in the past?
b an activity which continued for some time in the past?
c an event that happened earlier, before other events in the past?

5 **Finish the sentences using the Past Perfect. Use the text to help you, if necessary.**

1 Groucho invited Lucy as soon as _____.
2 They took a tram because _____.
3 Groucho was upset because _____.
4 He didn't have money for two tram tickets back home because _____.
5 Lucy never spoke to him again because _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

BACK TO THE PAST

6 Choose the correct options to complete this story!

Amazing But True!

One day, a fisherman on the Aral Sea [1]_____ (sail) home after a day's work. It [2]_____ (rain) and he [3]_____ (not feel) very happy. He [4]_____ (not have) a very good day and [5]_____ (not catch) very many fish. Suddenly, he [6]_____ (hear) a strange noise. A cow [7]_____ (fly) towards his boat! The cow [8]_____ (hit) the boat and nearly [9]_____ (destroy) it. When the fisherman [10]_____ (get back) home, people [11]_____ (not believe) his story. Then, some time later, the US Air Force [12]_____ (show) that the fisherman [13]_____ (tell) the truth. While one of their transport planes [14]_____ (fly) over the Aral Sea, a cow on the plane [15]_____ (go) mad and the pilot [16]_____ (throw) it out into the sea!



LIVEWORKSHEETS