Perseverance – the Mars rover – part 1



Exercise instructions:

Read the text and identify the verb tenses and their functions: write the number (1 to 5) of the examples from the text in the appropriate green boxes.

Before Perseverance **landed** (1) on Mars on 18 February 2021, the NASA **had sent** (2) another four rovers. As of May 2021, there **have been** (3) six successful robotically operated Mars rovers.

The American NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory **managed** (1) the first five: Sojourner (1997), Opportunity (2004), Spirit (2004), Curiosity (2012), and Perseverance (2021). The sixth is Zhurong (2021), which the China National Space Administration **sent** (1) to Mars, where it **arrived** (1) on 10 February 2021.

At the NASA they think it is possible that bacteria **were living** (4) on Mars a long time ago. Perseverance **has been trying** (5) to find evidence since it **arrived** (1) on Mars. The chemicals it **has been looking for** (5) are perchlorates, from which certain bacteria can obtain energy.

	Past continuous: WAS / WERE + V-ing
	Past simple: V-ed
	Present perfect: HAVE / HAS + V-en
	Present perfect continuous: HAVE / HAS + BEEN + V-ing
	Past perfect: HAD + V-en

	Finished action or event; the time is not important.
	Past action previous to another past action.
	Action in progress in the past.
	Action in a finished period of time which is mentioned in the context.
	Unfinished action, still in progress in the present since a time in the past.

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