

## Mixed tenses

1) Read the sentences and choose whether the underlined words refer to a, b or c.

- 1 My daughters' favourite animals at the zoo were the tigers. At lunchtime we watched the zoo staff feed them.  
a daughters  
b animals  
c tigers
- 2 Thelma and James both work in sales and have been at the same company for a year. They say it's a great place to work.  
a sales  
b company  
c year
- 3 When I told them I had lots of offers from the universities I visited last month, my parents were really proud of me.  
a offers  
b universities  
c parents
- 4 To celebrate getting his new job, Julio first went to a restaurant for lunch with friends. Then he went to a show in the evening with his wife. They both really enjoyed it.  
a job  
b restaurant  
c show
- 5 My sisters said goodbye to my grandparents and so did my parents, then we got in the car and I gave them a lift to the station.  
a said goodbye  
b got in the car  
c gave them a lift

2) Choose the correct answer from the words in italics.

A few years ago I spent a holiday in Indonesia, and while I was there I <sup>1</sup> *took / was taking* a boat trip to a remote island. I have always been interested in birds and <sup>2</sup> *was being told / had been told* that there was some great bird-watching on the islands. As soon as we reached our destination, everyone <sup>3</sup> *went / had gone* in different directions to explore. I was so keen to do the same that I <sup>4</sup> *hadn't listened / wasn't listening* when the guide told us what time to return to the boat. I <sup>5</sup> *set off / had set off* towards a beach I could see in the distance, where I <sup>6</sup> *had hoped / hoped* to find some interesting birds. After spending some time looking at some fabulous wildlife through my binoculars, and after I <sup>7</sup> *had taken / was taking* several photographs, I suddenly <sup>8</sup> *had realized / realized* that I had no idea what the time was, or when we were meant to be back at the boat. I quickly gathered my things and <sup>9</sup> *raced / was racing* back when I saw the boat disappearing into the distance. Luckily, one of the other passengers <sup>10</sup> *was noticing / had noticed* that I was missing and the boat soon turned around to pick me up. Much as I loved the island, I didn't really want to spend the night there alone!

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### 3) Choose the correct option a–c to complete the sentences.

- 1 I love listening to music \_\_\_\_\_ I'm in the bath.  
It's my favourite way of relaxing!  
**a** by the time  
**b** during  
**c** while
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ their new model of smart phone came out,  
there were people queueing up to buy one.  
**a** As soon as  
**b** Until  
**c** Meanwhile
- 3 In most countries around the world, people aren't able  
to vote \_\_\_\_\_ they are eighteen years old.  
**a** while  
**b** until  
**c** during
- 4 Last night, Johanna was busy working in the library.  
\_\_\_\_\_, all her friends were out having a good  
time.  
**a** By the time  
**b** During  
**c** Meanwhile
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ people reach the age of sixty-five, they  
have usually worked for many years.  
**a** As soon as  
**b** While  
**c** By the time

### 4) Choose the correct option a–c to complete the sentences.

- 1 I like most forms of entertainment but I often  
\_\_\_\_\_ why people like films that scare them. It  
seems so strange!  
**a** wonder  
**b** expect  
**c** remember
- 2 His friends regularly \_\_\_\_\_ him of the day he lost  
his keys and all his money. He would have preferred to  
forget it had ever happened!  
**a** believed  
**b** realized  
**c** reminded
- 3 They'd been there once but didn't think they'd  
\_\_\_\_\_ the house again, especially in the dark.  
**a** whisper  
**b** recognize  
**c** appear
- 4 It's a fascinating book, but very few people  
\_\_\_\_\_ that all the events actually happened.  
**a** will appear  
**b** will believe  
**c** will disappear
- 5 After the day had started so badly, nobody \_\_\_\_\_  
that we'd all enjoy ourselves so much.  
**a** expected  
**b** forgot  
**c** screamed