

Unit 2

Grammar

Past simple | Past continuous

1 Circle the correct option.

- Lily and Owen *were* / *were being* engaged for a year before they *were getting* / *got* married.
- We *waited* / *were waiting* for the bus when we *saw* / *were seeing* the accident.
- I *grew* / *was growing* up in New York.
- It was a beautiful day and the sun *shone* / *was shining*.
- I *didn't like* / *wasn't liking* being a teenager.
- While I *rode* / *was riding* my bike, the wheel fell off.
- Against the wishes of her parents, Grace *left* / *was leaving* school at 16 and found a job.
- We *ate* / *were eating* our evening meal when the lights went out and my sister screamed!
- I was wondering what to do when suddenly Rory *made* / *was making* a suggestion.
- I *weren't sleeping* / *wasn't sleeping* very well at the time. I think that was the main cause of my health problems, actually.

2 Write questions in the past simple or the past continuous using the prompts.

- Where / you / be / when / you / hear / news?  
Where were you when you heard the news?
- What / you / do / when / start / raining?
- you / have / good time / holiday?
- you / enjoy / yourself / at uni?
- you / manage / finish / your essay?
- why / you / run / when / I / see / you / yesterday?
- you / hear / about / Jenny's wedding?
- you / make / any friends / while / you / live / in Berlin?

3 Match answers a)-h) with the questions in exercise 2.

- Yes, I was – until I had to change course.
- After that, I hated it.
- Yes, I made some friends that I'm sure I'll have for life.
- No, I didn't. I still need another half an hour.
- I was in my room, revising.
- Yes, apparently she wore a great dress!
- Yes, thanks. It was wonderful. I'd like to go back there!
- I was going to college. Sorry I didn't stop to talk to you.
- We all ran into a café and ordered a hot drink.

4 Complete the text with the verbs in brackets in the correct past simple or past continuous form.



Tim <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (not / have) any plans for his future. But when he <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (revise) for his final exams, an idea suddenly <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (come) to him – he <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (decide) to go travelling. After all, he <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (not / really / want) to go to uni – that was what his parents wanted him to do. So he <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (work) hard, finished his exams and <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) school. A week later, he <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (travel) on a train through Europe with his best friend, Matt. It <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (feel) great to be with Matt and they <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (enjoy) their freedom. A week into their holiday, Tim and Matt <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a coffee in a hotel restaurant when Tim <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (see) an advertisement for a waiter. After a quick word with Matt, he <sup>13</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (apply) for the job, and he <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (get) it!

A year later, Matt <sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) him on holiday. Tim <sup>16</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (explain) that he was now the head waiter. Five years later, after Matt had finished his studies, he visited Tim again. This time, Tim <sup>17</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (not / work) as a waiter at all – he was the assistant manager!

used to | would

5a Rewrite the underlined sections using *used to*.

- I wasn't very adventurous when I was younger.  
I didn't use to be / I never used to be adventurous when I was younger.
- At that time, we lived in London.
- Jamie often visited his aunt when he was in Liverpool.
- When you were at school, how did you revise for exams?
- Families weren't so small in the old days.
- In the summer holidays, we ate ice cream nearly every day.
- My brother never shared his toys with me.
- I swam every day when I was young.
- You weren't a smoker!
- My granddad read me bedtime stories every night.

5b Which five sentences in exercise 5a can also be written using *would*? Write them in your notebook.

some / any / much / many / a lot, etc.

**6 Answer the questions. Circle the correct option.**

- 1 **A** How much money do you spend a week?  
**B** I love shopping and I never save, so I spend *a lot / a little / not a lot.*
- 2 **A** Imagine you're hungry but you haven't got much money. What do you buy?  
**B** I always make my own food, so I'd buy *a pie or pizza / some bread and cheese / a few ingredients* to cook a meal.
- 3 **A** How much time do you spend on electronic devices?  
**B** Staring at screens gives me a headache, so *not much / a lot / very much.*
- 4 **A** How many people do you speak to in one day?  
**B** I'm a receptionist at a doctor's so I speak to *a lot of / a few / not many* people.
- 5 **A** How many e-mails do you send or receive in a month?  
**B** *A lot / A few / Not many* - more than 2,000!
- 6 **A** How much do you enjoy watching television?  
**B** Hmm, I watch TV, but it's not my favourite thing to do. I enjoy it *a lot / not a lot / a bit.*

**7 Write answers to the questions in exercise 6 that are true for you.**

**Indefinite pronouns**

**8 Complete the text with the words.**

anything anywhere everyone everything nobody (x2)  
nothing someone something

## THE WORK HAT

Last month, I really fell behind with my work. There are so many distractions at uni, I found I couldn't concentrate on

<sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. I was missing lectures and failing to finish assignments. Basically, <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ was getting done.

When I overslept and missed an exam, I knew I had to do <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ extreme.

The problem is, I have a lot of friends, and when they see me studying in the café or library, we have a chat. I can't work when I'm chatting! Then <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ suggested wearing a 'work hat'. Basically, this is a bright red baseball cap. On the front, it says 'Please leave me alone. I'm studying.' At first, <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ understood and they kept trying to talk to me.

So I had to politely ask my friends not to talk to me when I'm wearing the cap. Now though, <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ understands what it means when I have the hat on. They leave me alone, and I can study!

Of course, the best thing about the 'work hat' is that I can use it in the library, in lectures, in the café, in fact <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ - as long as I remember it! When I've got my work hat on, <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ bothers me. Finally, <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ is under control - and I've just passed my end-of-term exams!

enough / not enough / too much / too many / a few / a little / few / little

**9 Circle the correct option.**

- 1 There's *a little / not enough* time in the day to get everything done!
- 2 There's *hardly any / very few* food in the house. I suggest we go out to eat.
- 3 'Have you got any money on you?' 'Not *much / many.*'
- 4 There's *a / very little* space in my room. Are you sure that desk isn't too big?
- 5 Sit with us. There's *too much / enough* room for one more.
- 6 I know a lot of people but there are *very few / too little* that I would call friends.
- 7 Come and see me this afternoon around four. I've got *little / a little* free time then.
- 8 It's not *too warm / warm enough* to go swimming. I think I'll spend the day revising.

**10 Match 1-6 with a-f) to make sentences.**

- 1 I've eaten too many
  - 2 I don't have enough
  - 3 I've invited a few
  - 4 Could I have a little
  - 5 I've got way too much
  - 6 There's little you can do
- a) mates around for dinner tonight.  
b) to speed up the recovery.  
c) chocolates and now I feel sick.  
d) coursework and I don't know how I'll get it all done!  
e) water, please? I'm very thirsty.  
f) money to buy a new laptop.

## Grammar round-up

**11 Write about you. Answer the questions in your notebook.**

- 1 Write about three things you did yesterday.
- 2 What were you doing at midday yesterday?
- 3 What were you doing when you first met one of your friends?
- 4 Name something you used to do but you don't do anymore.
- 5 Name something you would often do in your breaks at school when you were younger.
- 6 How much money have you got?
- 7 How much free time do you have on an average day?
- 8 Do you do anything to help keep your house or room clean?
- 9 Do you think you do enough studying for English?
- 10 Would you say you have too many things in your room, too few, or just enough?

## Vocabulary

### Life stages | Life events

#### 1 Correct one mistake in each sentence.

- 1 My sister says that she wants to do five children.
- 2 Donna couldn't wait until she was old enough to hire a room of her own.
- 3 Do you think 25 is a good age to become married?
- 4 Charles left the school at 15 and worked for 50 years.
- 5 Did your brother take a place at uni?
- 6 It's a big step when you leave from home.

#### 2 Complete the texts. Write one word in each gap.

HOME | NEWS | BLOG | CONTACT

### Life Discussions!

#### Marriage

In my country, people usually <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ engaged before they <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ married. The engagement can last anything from a few months to years. I know a couple who were engaged for ten years! Then, two years after their wedding, they <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ divorced! They didn't <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ children so it was easy enough, but obviously marriage didn't suit them.

**Alicia, 16**

#### Leaving Home

I was lucky – I <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a place at uni in my home town – but, I'm in no hurry to <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ home. I get on very well with my parents and it's a big house, so it makes financial sense to stay here. I could <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a room in the town, but what would be the point? And I think I'm too young to <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a mortgage and have all the financial responsibilities of owning a house. There's time for that later when I decide to settle down and <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a baby.

**Harry, 19**

#### Going to Uni

There's a lot of pressure on me to <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to uni, and I know it's a good idea to <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a degree, but I'm not sure. I like the idea of <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ on a gap year. Maybe I will <sup>13</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ abroad – and if I <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a job, that's great. University is not for everyone.

**Eva, 20**

### Word Expander *despite/although*

#### 3 Rewrite the sentences using *although* or *despite*.

- 1 It was raining, but we played football anyway.  
\_\_\_\_\_, we still played football.
- 2 He was tired, but he still agreed to help me.  
\_\_\_\_\_, he still agreed to help me.
- 3 He revised a lot, but he failed the test.  
He failed the test anyway, \_\_\_\_\_ a lot.
- 4 She was only a child, but she knew what she wanted from life.  
She knew what she wanted from life, \_\_\_\_\_ she was only a child.
- 5 Pierre knew the answer, but didn't want to say.  
\_\_\_\_\_, Pierre didn't want to say.
- 6 He had a lot of difficulties, but he was always smiling.  
He was always smiling \_\_\_\_\_ difficulties.
- 7 Mia took the exam even though she felt very ill.  
\_\_\_\_\_, Mia took the exam anyway.
- 8 We may not be rich, but we're happy.  
\_\_\_\_\_, we're happy.

#### 4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words.

accomplish achieve get motivate overcome set  
succeed take

## Steps to Success

- ★ If you <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ yourself clear goals, it's easier to achieve them.
- ★ Sometimes you need to ask for help to <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ difficult obstacles.
- ★ You can <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ anything if you are prepared to work hard for it.
- ★ Not everyone is <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ by money.
- ★ If you make a mistake, you should <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ responsibility.
- ★ Never give up and you'll find you <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ results.
- ★ You don't always have to have a degree to <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in life.
- ★ If you've <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ your goals, it's time to set some new ones.