

Complete this story about a journey, using the past simple and the correct verbs from the box. Use short forms for negatives.

get not stay drive be (x2) shout not speak come not go make
not start not say arrive start go not arrive want

Yesterday I went⁰ on a day trip. My friend Liam¹ with me. The day² well because Liam³ at my house late. He⁴ why he⁵ late and I⁶ at him. Then we⁷ our journey. I⁸ the car. A bit later, we⁹ lost. We¹⁰ to go to the seaside but we¹¹ a bad mistake and we¹² in the right direction. We¹³ at the beach until very late in the day, so we¹⁴ for a long time. On the way home, we¹⁵ to each other at all. We¹⁶ both very angry.

The road to fame

Complete this interview with a famous singer, using the past simple and the correct words from the box.

offer play you feel happen appear be not earn
you become help it happen see leave enjoy buy want make
~~you start~~ take ask know have

INTERVIEWER When did you start⁰ singing in the band?
MIA Well, I¹ 19 years old. The original singer² the band and the others³ me to replace him.
INTERVIEWER⁴ successful very quickly?
MIA No, it⁵ a long time. We⁶ in small clubs for many years and we⁷ much money.
INTERVIEWER⁸ unhappy then?
MIA No, we⁹ ourselves. We¹⁰ a great time. But we¹¹ to succeed.
INTERVIEWER How¹²?
MIA Well, a manager¹³ us playing in a small club and he¹⁴ to be our manager. He¹⁵ a lot about the music business and he¹⁶ us a lot. Because of him, we¹⁷ on a TV show. Then we¹⁸ a record and lots of people¹⁹ it. Everything²⁰ very quickly then.



Complete these sentences about someone's day at work, using the past simple or the past continuous forms of the verbs in brackets.

- 0 While I was travelling (travel) to work, I got (get) stuck in traffic jam.
- 1 When I arrived (arrive) at work, my boss was speaking (speak) to someone on the phone.
- 2 At 11 a.m., I was doing (do) some work when the boss asked (ask) to see me.
- 3 While I was talking (talk) to my boss, his phone rang (ring) several times.
- 4 When I came (come) out of the boss's office, people who were not working (not work), they looked (look) at me.
- 5 At 1 o'clock, I stopped (stop) work and I went (go) for lunch.
- 6 While I was eating (eat) my lunch, a colleague came (come) to my table.
- 7 While we were sitting (sit) together, he asked (ask) me a question.
- 8 He asked me: 'What was the boss talking about (the boss/talk) about while you were sitting (sit) in his office?'
- 9 I said: 'When I went (go) into his office, I felt (feel) nervous, but he was smiling (smile).'
- 10 While we were talking (talk), he offered (offer) me a much better job.'

In exercises B, D and E, there are three phrases with *get*. Complete each phrase. The meaning of each one is in brackets:

- A get stuck (be unable to find your way to a place)
- B get married (marry someone)
- C get stuck in traffic (be unable to move or progress)

Travel writers

Complete this story, using the past simple or the past continuous form of the correct verbs from the box. You will need to use some of the verbs more than once.

plan ask have decide meet travel come sit write give
discover become start make do chat continue not like live

Joan was living⁰ in Paris when she met¹ Paul. She was sitting² in a café when he came³ to her table and said⁴ if he could sit there. They started⁵ talking and while they were talking⁶, they discovered⁷ that they had⁸ a lot in common. Both of them wrote⁹ novels and both of them had¹⁰ jobs that they loved¹¹. They became¹² very good friends.

One day, while they were having¹³ lunch in the same café, they came up with¹⁴ an idea. They decided¹⁵ to travel around the world together. While they were travelling¹⁶ their trip, they continued¹⁷ working. Then they finished¹⁸ up their jobs and they continued¹⁹ their journey. While they were travelling²⁰, they met²¹ all sorts of adventures, and they met²² all sorts of interesting people. They wrote²³ lots of notes while they travelled²⁴ these experiences. When they came²⁵ home again, both of them wrote²⁶ books about their journey.

C4 Read this email and underline the best tense for each verb.

Hi Bea

A funny thing 1 happened/was happening to me and my flatmates on Saturday.

On Friday night we 2 went/were going to the college party. There were some new students there and we 3 met/were meeting someone called Lucas. We 4 invited/were inviting him to Sunday lunch. It was a great party so we 5 didn't go/weren't going home until three o'clock.

Of course, we 6 didn't get/weren't getting up early on Saturday morning. At half past twelve I 7 watched/was watching TV in my pyjamas, Marie 8 had/was having a shower and Wendy 9 read/was reading a magazine. Suddenly someone 10 rang/was ringing the doorbell. I 11 looked/was looking out of the window to see who was there. Lucas 12 stood/was standing on the step. I 13 went/was going to the door but I 14 didn't open/wasn't opening it. I said 'Hello?' and he said 'Hello, I've come for lunch.' Oh no! He'd got the wrong day!!

We 15 got/were getting dressed in three minutes! Luckily we 16 had/were having enough food, and he seemed to enjoy it. How was your weekend? Love Annette

C5 Read this newspaper article and put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense, past simple or past continuous.

An honest customer

Yesterday Jon Atkins 1 went (go) into Harpers' Art Gallery at the end of the afternoon. He 2 (want) to buy a present for his mother. It 3 (be) nearly closing time and owner Michael Harper 4 (count) the money. Quickly Jon 5 (choose) a small picture and Mr Harper 6 (wrap) it for him. While 7 he (wait) for his bus, Jon 8 (decide) to look at the picture again. In the parcel he 9 (find) £500 in cash as well as the picture. He

10 (run) back to the shop. It was closed so Jon 11 (look) through the window.

Michael Harper 12 (search) under the counter, and his assistants 13 (look) in all the cupboards and drawers. 'I 14 (knock) on the window and 15 (wave) the money at them' said Jon.

'I was so happy,' said Mr Harper. 'It's wonderful to know that there are honest people like Jon.'

Complete the sentences by using the correct form of the verbs in brackets and choosing the correct alternative where necessary. Use the Past Simple or Past Continuous together with any other words given.

- 1 She *would/used to* know everyone in the neighbourhood before they (build) all those blocks of luxury flats.
- 2 We (watch) television when we (hear) the alarm go off.
- 3 When we (be) young, Grandma *would tell/was telling* us a story before we (go) to bed.
- 4 (you know) her before she (move) into the flat next to yours.
- 5 Carrie (fall) asleep when the film (begin) and (not wake up) until the end.
- 6 Why (you tell) your sister that we (have) an argument with my parents last night?
- 7 (he work) on the car when I (phone) yesterday afternoon?
- 8 They (not live) in London at that time because they (leave) the capital three years ago.
- 9 *Did you use to/Would you* have long hair when you (be) a teenager?
- 10 His neighbours (look) out of their windows as the police (open) the gate, (walk) down the path and (ring) his front doorbell.

Complete the dialogue by using the correct form of the verbs in brackets and any other words given. Use the Past Simple or the Past Continuous.

- Mother: When we (1) (get) home, you two (2) (shout) at each other. Why?
- Alison: I (3) (listen) to my iPod while I (4) (do) my homework when she (5) (take) it from me because hers (6) (have) something wrong with it.
- Mother: What (7) (you do) then?
- Alison: I (8) (ask) her to give it back.
- Debbie: No, (9) (you not ask) for it back, you liar! You (10) (throw) your pen at me.
- Alison: That was because you (11) (start) laughing while I (12) (try) to get it back.
- Mother: OK. You're both grounded for a week!
- Alison, That's not fair!
- Debbie: