

Preliminary For Schools

Writing Part 2 – Story

1 Match the sentences to their descriptions.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 I went there last Saturday. | a Something that was happening in the past. |
| 2 She was playing volleyball all day. | b A past event which happened before another past event. |
| 3 After he had watched the film he went outside. | c A single event in the past. |

2 Complete the sentence with the past simple or past continuous form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 He an apple when the teacher into the classroom. (eat, come)
- 2 Do you know what Henry all evening? There was a lot of noise! (do)
- 3 My mum when she saw my exam result. (smile)
- 4 My brother a glass while he the washing up. (break, do)
- 5 Joe until 10 o'clock yesterday morning. (not wake up)
- 6 We to the cinema last weekend and we a great film. (go, see)
- 7 I a police car while I home from school. (saw, walk)
- 8 Dad me to school this morning because I late. (drive, be)



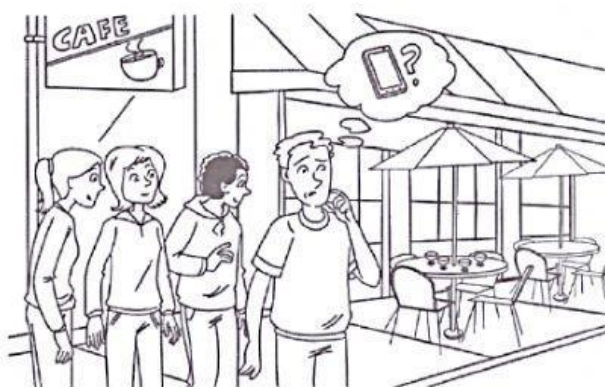
3 Circle the correct tense in each sentence.

- 1 After I *was going* / *went* outside, I *realised* / *was realising* that I *forgot* / *had forgotten* my keys.
- 2 Clare *was standing* / *stood* at the bus stop when Martin *arrived* / *had arrived* there.
- 3 After I *had eaten* / *was eating* all the chips, mum *told* / *had told* me they were for my dad.
- 4 Sue *had spent* / *was spending* all morning in the park before she *had come* / *came* to my house.
- 5 My brother *played* / *had played* football yesterday until it *started* / *was starting* to rain.
- 6 While Tom *was waiting* / *had waited* at the station, he *saw* / *had seen* a poster for a band that he *hadn't heard* / *didn't hear* before.

4 Complete the story with the correct past tense of these verbs.

watch look get happen start
decide be begin lose tell sit

By the time I (0) *got* to the cinema, the film (1)
My friends (2) at the back of the cinema and (3)
they the film. I asked them what (4) at
the beginning of the film, but as soon as they (5) to
explain, other people (6) at them to be quiet!
After the film, we (7) to go to a café to get an ice-
cream. I (8) for my phone to call my parents, but it
(9) in my pocket. I (10) it!



FOCUS: UNDERSTANDING THE TASK

5 Look at the exam task below and answer these questions.

- 1 What must you write?
- 2 Who is your reader?
- 3 What must you include in your answer? Where?

Write your answer in about 100 words on the answer sheet.

Your English teacher has asked you to write a story.

Your story must begin with this sentence:

Before I could answer my phone, it stopped ringing.

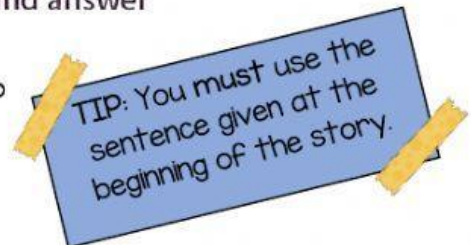
Write your story.



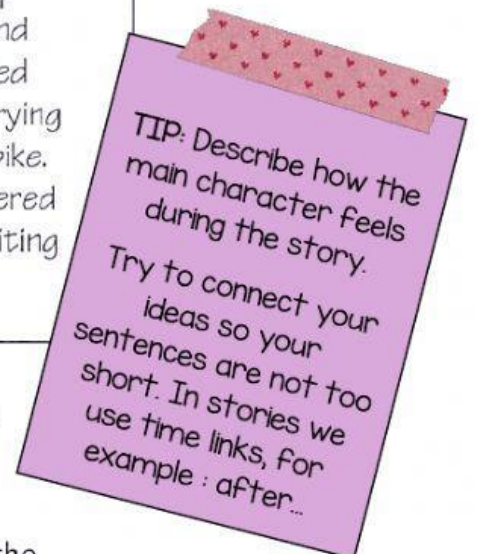
FOCUS: STUDYING A SAMPLE ANSWER

6 Read this sample answer to the exam question above and answer questions 1–4.

- 1 Does the answer include the sentence given? yes / no
- 2 Is it the right length? yes / no
- 3 Does it describe how the character feels? yes / no
- 4 Does it have a happy or a sad ending? happy / sad



Before I could answer my phone, it stopped ringing. I was riding along a busy road and by the time I was able to stop safely, I'd missed the call. I didn't recognise the number and when I rang back it was engaged, so I wondered who'd called me. Had something happened at home? Was my school trying to contact me, and if so, why? Worried, I got back on my bike. As soon as I was moving, my phone rang again and I answered just in time. A friendly voice told me I'd won a prize in a writing competition I'd entered a month earlier. I was delighted!



7 Look at the sample answer more carefully and answer these questions.

Join examples of the **past simple**, the **past continuous** and the **past perfect**.

Writing Part 2 - Story

Your English teacher has asked you to write a story. Your story must **begin** with this sentence:

Matt and his friend found a strange old map under the bed.

Write your story in about 100 words

