

**EXERCISE 3:** Complete the sentences with the *Simple Past* forms of the Irregular verbs in the list. Use each verb only once.

arise  
creep  
dig  
hold  
feed

fall  
feel  
spring  
forbid  
hide

slide  
forgive  
keep  
lay  
lie

1. As a child, I ..... caged birds, but now I don't, as I no longer like seeing them in captivity.
2. The meeting should have been quite short, but the question of finance ..... , so it took longer than expected.
3. I ..... into the house really quietly last night in the hope that my parents wouldn't notice how late I was.
4. I ..... him for borrowing the car without my permission, but not for lying about it when I first asked.
5. I'm sorry I didn't turn up last night, but I ..... down on my bed for a few minutes' rest and accidentally went to sleep!
6. They ..... the party at a friend's house because theirs wasn't big enough.
7. His father ..... him from listening to rock music in the house as he insisted on playing it so loudly.
8. She ..... the table for ten people, but in fact, only six of the invited guests came.
9. I was late for work this morning because my daughter ..... my car keys from me and then couldn't remember where they were.
10. He ..... badly when he was playing football and fractured his ankle.
11. My neighbour was furious when our dog ..... a big hole in his flowerbed.
12. It's not surprising that he ..... so ill this morning. He drank far too much wine last night.
13. She must have been waiting for an important call, because the minute she heard the phone ringing, she ..... to her feet and rushed to answer it.
14. My wife was so angry with me for being late that she ..... my dinner to the dog!
15. As he ..... slowly off his chair and collapsed into a heap on the floor, I realized he was drunk.



**SPECIAL DELIVERY**

A letter carrier once encountered a new resident who was disappointed because he didn't bring her anything from her daughter. She went on complaining about the ills of the Postal Service. The carrier listened to her patiently, and then he assured her that he'd personally deliver any mail from her loved one.

A few days later, as the letter carrier neared the same house, a young woman stepped out of a taxi. Glancing around uncertainly, she approached the carrier and showed him a piece of paper with a name and a street but no house number. Recognizing the new resident's name, he took the young woman to the house. Just then the elderly woman stepped onto her porch and, after a moment of stunned silence, rushed into her daughter's arms.

Tears of joy in her eyes, the mother told the letter carrier, "I still think you are slow with your regular mail, but you sure make up for it with your special delivery!"

(by Virginia Torrez, from Reader's Digest)