

PAST TENSES

Past simple, past continuous, past perfect simple and past perfect continuous.

1. Read these sentences about an overnight train journey from London to Switzerland and put the verbs in brackets into the **past simple** or the **past continuous**.

1) By the time the train _____ (leave), it
_____ (get) dark.

2) We _____ (still look) for our seats
when the train _____ (stop) for the first
time.

3) We _____ (meet) a family from
Scotland, who _____ (go) to a wedding in
France.

4) In the evening, we _____ (sit) in the buffet, we _____ (not eat) much but we _____ (talk) to some interesting people.

5) When I _____ (wake up) in the morning, we _____ (travel) through the vineyards.

6) As soon as we _____ (cross) the border, I _____ (begin) to feel excited.

7) When we _____ (reach) the mountains, we _____ (know) our journey was almost over.

8) The train _____ (arrive) late and our friends _____ (not wait) for us so we _____ (take) a taxi to their flat.

2. For each gap, choose a verb from the box and put it into the **past perfect** or the **past perfect continuous**.

Feel

forget

own

stand up

try

wait

1) The crowd _____ for over an hour for the match to begin.

2) We _____ to find the key for five minutes when my dad found it in his pocket.

3) When he retired. My grandfather _____ his business for more than 40 years.

4) David _____ unwell for a few days so he went to the doctor's.

5) Katrina was really angry with me because I _____ to tell her the change of plan.

6) I was quite tired when I got home as I _____ watching our school football team for over an hour.

3. For each gap, put the verb in brackets into the **past simple, past continuous, past perfect simple** or the **past perfect continuous**.

Last week I (1) _____ (**GO**) to the mountains with my cousins. None of us (2) _____ (**EVER SKI**) before so we (3) _____ (**LOOK**) forward to it for months.

While we (4) _____ (**DRIVE**) to the airport, it (5) _____ (**START**) to snow and we were really excited. But when we (6) _____ (**GET**) off the plane in the mountains, there (7) _____ (**NOT BE**) any snow at all.

Everyone there (8) _____ (**SAY**) it was too warm for snow. We (9) _____ (**GO**) to bed feeling sad that we wouldn't be able to ski. But when we (10) _____ (**GET**) up the next morning and (11) _____ (**LOOK**) out of the window we realized that it (12) _____ (**SNOW**) all night and we would be able to ski after all.