

a Put the verbs from the list into the story in the past simple, past perfect, or past continuous.

1 come 2 win 3 become 4 notice 5 not sweat 6 investigate 7 see 8 say 9 see 10 take  
11 finish 12 cheat

## ROSIE RUIZ

ON APRIL 21 1980, 23-year-old Rosie Ruiz 1 \_\_\_\_\_ first in the Boston Marathon. She 2 \_\_\_\_\_ the race in the third-fastest time ever recorded for a female runner (two hours, 31 minutes, 56 seconds).

However, the organizers 3 \_\_\_\_\_ suspicious, because they 4 \_\_\_\_\_ that when she crossed the finishing line she 5 \_\_\_\_\_ at all.

When they 6 \_\_\_\_\_ they found out that none of the course officials 7 \_\_\_\_\_ her passing checkpoints. Other competitors didn't remember seeing her at all.

Then a few spectators 8 \_\_\_\_\_ that they 9 \_\_\_\_\_ Ruiz join the race just for the final kilometre. She had simply sprinted from there to the finish line.

The marathon organizers 10 \_\_\_\_\_ away Ruiz's medal and gave it to Jacqueline Gareau, who 11 \_\_\_\_\_ second in the race.

Later they also found out that Ruiz 12 \_\_\_\_\_ in the New York Marathon, the race she used to qualify for the Boston event, earlier in the same year but in a different way...



a Put the verbs from the list into the story in the past simple, past perfect, or past continuous.

1 compete 2 wait 3 notice 4 begin 5 win 6 beat 7 say 8 last 9 take 10 take  
11 give 12 discover

## Ben Johnson



In the Seoul Olympics in 1988, the Canadian runner Ben Johnson was running in the 100 metres final. People called it 'the race of the century' because Johnson 1 \_\_\_\_\_ against his greatest rival – the American sprinter, Carl Lewis.

When the runners 2 \_\_\_\_\_ to start the race, some people 3 \_\_\_\_\_ that Johnson's eyes were yellow.

The race 4 \_\_\_\_\_ and moments later Johnson was the Olympic champion. His time of 9.72 seconds was a new world record. Johnson was euphoric, because he 5 \_\_\_\_\_ the gold medal and 6 \_\_\_\_\_ his American rival, Carl Lewis. After the race, Johnson 7 \_\_\_\_\_: 'My name is Benjamin Sinclair Johnson Jr and this world record will last 50 years, maybe 100 years.'

But he was wrong. His world record 8 \_\_\_\_\_ only a few hours. That evening, drug tests showed that Johnson 9 \_\_\_\_\_ steroids before the race.

The Olympic committee 10 \_\_\_\_\_ away his gold medal and 11 \_\_\_\_\_ it to Carl Lewis. Johnson was also banned from athletics for two years.

But fifteen years later people 12 \_\_\_\_\_ some amazing news about Carl Lewis...

- a** Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets: past simple, past continuous, or past perfect.

# My exam **nightmare**

I <sup>1</sup> woke up (wake up) on the morning of the maths exam with a horrible feeling in my stomach. I knew that I <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (not study) enough the night before and that I was going to fail.

When I left home it <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (rain) and there was a lot of traffic. I <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) five minutes late and the exam <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (already / start). I sat down quickly and looked at the questions. I <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (not can) answer any of them! It was the most difficult exam the teacher <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (ever / give) us.

I <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (sit) next to one of my friends called Sophie and I could see that she <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (write) very quickly. She was great at maths. Suddenly I had an idea. I <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (look) at the teacher, Mr Everitt. He <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (stand) by the window and he <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (not look) at us. I wrote a message on a piece of paper and <sup>13</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (throw) it to Sophie. It said 'I need help.' Sophie <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (already / finish) the exam. She copied the answers on a piece of paper and quickly passed it to me.

- b** Cover the text and try to remember the story.



The following day Mr Everitt <sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (call) us both to his room. We saw that he <sup>16</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (hold) my exam paper, and Sophie's, too. He told us that we <sup>17</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (both / fail) the exam. We <sup>18</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (write) exactly the same answers for every question, including several wrong answers.