

Circle the correct answers.

- I didn't have / *hadn't had* much money after I *paid* / had paid for the plane ticket.
- 1 Carl *never saw* / *had never seen* a castle before he *went* / *had gone* to Europe.
 - 2 No one *understood* / *had understood* how the dog *got* / *had got* out.
 - 3 I *arrived* / *had arrived* at the cinema at 5.30, but the film *already started* / *had already started*.
 - 4 Sarah *didn't play* / *hadn't played* golf on Saturday because she *hurt* / *had hurt* her leg.
 - 5 After I *looked* / *had looked* in all the drawers for my keys, I *found* / *had found* them in my pocket.
 - 6 I *didn't recognise* / *hadn't recognised* Lucy, because she *grew* / *had grown* her hair very long.
 - 7 The man *told* / *had told* me that he *was* / *had been* in Russia a few years before.
 - 8 Everything *was* / *had been* white and beautiful, because it *snowed* / *had snowed* in the night.
 - 9 Because I *didn't make* / *hadn't made* an appointment, the manager *refused* / *had refused* to see me.
 - 10 When I *did* / *had done* the washing up I *sat down* / *had sat down* and *read* / *had read* the paper.

Put in the simple past or the past perfect.

- Joe didn't tell anybody where he had got all that money. (*not tell; get*)
- Helen went to Mexico last week. Before that, she had never outside the US. (*go; be*)
- 1 When their mother home, the children the cat. (*get; wash*)
 - 2 Yesterday I a man who with my grandmother. (*meet; work*)
 - 3 I her somewhere – I sure. (*see; be*)
 - 4 Because he the oil for so long, the car (*not check; break down*)
 - 5 She couldn't find the book that I her. (*lend*)
 - 6 They where he the money. (*not know; hide*)
 - 7 200 years ago, most people very much. (*not travel*)
 - 8 I a letter on my desk that I to post. (*find; forget*)
 - 9 When she in, we all knew where she (*come; be*)
 - 10 The lesson when I (*already start; arrive*)

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

- a When I (try) tried to use my laptop, I realized the battery (run) down.
- b I (turn) the computer off, but forgot that I (not save) my work.
- c I only remembered I (not pay) the bill when my Internet connection (stop) working.
- d When I (receive) the e-mail, I couldn't understand who (send) it.
- e When I (check) the instructions, I understood what I (do)
- f I knew I (receive) a virus when I (run) the anti-virus program.
- g As soon as I (download) the document, I knew I (make) a mistake.
- h I could see what (go) wrong as soon as I (look) inside the printer.
- i I knew I (press) the wrong key when nothing (happen)
- j When the screen (go) blank, I couldn't understand how it (happen)

Make sentences using the past perfect.

▶ 1. Jack finished his lunch. 2. He sat down to watch a film. (*when*)
When Jack had finished his lunch, he sat down to watch a film.

▶ 2. I went on a trip round America. 1. I finished my exams. (*after*)
I went on a trip round America after I had finished my exams.

1 1. He tried on six pairs of shoes. 2. He decided he liked the first ones best. (*after*)

2 1. Mary did all the shopping. 2. She took a short walk round the park. (*when*)

3 1. I washed and dried the last plate. 2. Paul came in and offered to help. (*after*)

4 2. He went to the café in the square for a cup of coffee. 1. He said goodbye to the visitors. (*after*)

5 2. I started on the dark chocolate. 1. I ate all the milk chocolate. (*when*)

6 1. Peter did his karate training. 2. He phoned his mother. (*when*)

7 2. Mike had a long hot shower. 1. He went for a run. (*after*)

8 2. Sandra went to bed. 1. She phoned the office to say she was ill. (*after*)

Grammar in a text. Choose the correct tense (simple past or past perfect).

I (▶ go) went to Paris last spring for a job interview; I (1 not be) there for five years. I (2 arrive) the evening before the interview, and (3 decide) to go for a walk. I (4 spend) a happy hour strolling round, thinking about the good times I (5 have) there as a student. As I was walking by the Seine, I suddenly (6 see) a familiar face – it was Nedjma, the woman I (7 share) a flat with when I was a student, and whose address I (8 lose) after leaving Paris. I could tell she (9 not see) me, so I (10 call) her name and she (11 look) up. As she (12 turn) towards me, I (13 realise) that she (14 have) an ugly scar on the side of her face. She (15 see) the shock in my eyes, and her hand (16 go) up to touch the scar; she (17 explain) that she (18 get) it when she was a journalist reporting on a war in Africa.

She (19 not be) uncomfortable telling me this; we (20 feel) as if the years (21 not pass), as if we (22 say) goodbye the week before. She (23 arrive) in Paris that morning, and she (24 have) a hospital appointment the next day. The doctors (25 think) that they could remove the scar, but she would have to stay in Paris for several months. Both of us (26 have) the idea at the same time: if I (27 get) the job, we could share a flat again. And we could start by having a coffee while we (28 begin) to tell one another everything that (29 happen) to us in the past five years.

Use the simple past or the past perfect form of the verbs in parentheses to complete the sentences. In some cases, either tense is correct.

1. Samir (be) was / had been a newspaper reporter before he (become) became a businessman.
2. I (feel) a little better after I (take) the medicine.
3. I was late. The teacher (give, already) a quiz when I (get) to class.
4. It was raining hard, but by the time class (be) over, the rain (stop)
5. Millions of years ago, dinosaurs (roam) the earth, but they (become) extinct by the time people first (appear)

6. I (*see, never*) _____ any of Picasso's paintings before I (*visit*) _____ the art museum.
7. After work, I went to Rosa's office to give her a ride home, but I couldn't find her. She (*leave*) _____ with someone else.
8. I got ready to pay the bill, but when I (*look*) _____ in my pocket, I discovered that I (*leave*) _____ my wallet at home. With some embarrassment, I told my friend that I (*forget*) _____ my wallet. She kindly (*offer*) _____ to pay my part of the bill for me.
9. Yesterday at a meeting, I (*see*) _____ Rick Collins, an old friend of mine. I (*see, not*) _____ him in years. At first, I (*recognize, not*) _____ him because he (*lose*) _____ a great deal of weight.
10. In 1980, my parents (*emigrate*) _____ to the United States from China. They (*travel, never*) _____ outside of China and were, of course, excited by the challenge of relocating to a foreign country. Eventually, they (*settle*) _____ in California. My sister and I were born there and (*grow*) _____ up there. Last year, I (*go*) _____ to China for the first time to study at Beijing University. I (*want, always*) _____ to visit China and learn more about my own family background. My dreams finally came true.

A Pleasant Surprise

Last night, Amy got home from work two hours late. Usually she's home by 7:30, but last night she didn't get there until almost 9:30.

When she got home, her husband, Jamal, _____¹ dinner and was washing the dishes. With a worried tone in his voice, he **asked** her where _____². She **told** him _____³ to work late, and then, on her way home, _____⁴ a big accident that had slowed traffic to a crawl. He **asked** her why she _____⁵. She **said** _____⁶ to recharge her cell phone, so she couldn't call him.

Jamal smiled warmly and said that he was just glad that she was safely home. Then he offered to make her dinner — which she gratefully accepted. A home-cooked meal sounded wonderful. _____⁷ a long day!