Put the example sentences 1–8 into the right place (A—H) in the text. Put the verbs into the right tenses.

1. I (make) a sandwich when I (cut) my finger.
2. How long you (live) there? I (live) there for 6 years.
3. I (wake) up at 8 a. m., (have) a shower and (eat) some breakfast.
4. He (look) very tired, he (work) very hard over the past three weeks.
5. She always (hate) me.
6. They already (leave) when I (arrive).
7. It (rain) cats and dogs.
8. Uncle George never (laugh).

Narrative tenses are verb tenses that are used to talk about the past. They are often found in stories and descriptions of past events, such as personal anecdotes.

The basic tense for telling a story is **the Past Simple tense** which has several uses.

1. **Completed actions.** We see this succession of events happen and come to completion.

A. _____

2. **Habits in the past.** What did the character routinely do that tells us something about his or her character?

B. _____

3. **Duration in the past.**

C. _____

4. **Facts or generalizations in the past.**

D. _____

The Past Continuous is our past in motion. There are several uses for this tense as well, and these are the three that are, probably, the most important for our purposes.

1. **Interrupted action.** This is where we use the past continuous as background to a more important or dramatic event, which is in the past.

E. _____

2. **Atmosphere.** To describe the situation in which the events of the narrative occurred. It gives us a sense of action or movement in the scene.

F. _____

The Past Perfect tells us what happened BEFORE the events we're already reading about in the past.

G. _____

The Past Perfect Continuous is used for longer activities that were happening continuously up until a specified time in the past.

H. _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS