

GRAMMAR

past tenses

1 Complete the sentences with the correct ending (A or B).

- I first went abroad
 - twice already this year.
 - two years ago, when I was thirteen.
- While I was taking a selfie,
 - a girl suddenly put her face in the picture.
 - a girl was putting her face in the picture.
- He didn't really join in. He
 - was always playing computer games instead of enjoying the trip.
 - 's been playing computer games instead of enjoying the trip.
- We were going to get tickets for the water park
 - and it was great fun.
 - but it was closed on Sunday.
- Dad was due to join us for the second week
 - but he was ill and couldn't make it.
 - and he loved the area too.
- There was no one to help us. We got to the hotel after midnight and
 - the receptionist went home.
 - the receptionist had already gone home.
- I was happy, but really tired after
 - we've been exploring the city all day.
 - we'd been exploring the city all day.

2 Complete the sentences with the past form of these verbs.

going to + skype / be read / miss / have to swim / step
take off / wait used + spend / would + collect walk / crash

- We along the beach when suddenly a huge wave over the rocks.
- By the time the plane actually, we on the runway for an hour.
- I home, but the signal in the hostel hopeless.
- My sister already out to the rock by the time I into the water.
- I on the bus, so I my stop and walk 5 km back to the campsite.
- As I young child, I a week with my aunt and uncle near the coast. I shells and stones from our walks along the beach.

3 Find two sentences in which 'would' can replace 'used to'.

- I look really different from my passport picture. I used to have long hair.
- We used to build a campfire every night and tell ghost stories.
- We have a house on the mainland now, but we used to live on a small island.
- My family and all our cousins used to stay in a big farmhouse every summer.
- My aunt has been all over Europe. She used to work as a tour guide.

4 Match the sentence halves (1–6) with (A–F).

- I used to be petrified of flying.
 - We couldn't believe how crowded the Tokyo underground was,
 - My friend doesn't want to come on the adventure holiday,
 - I hated the cold showers at the campsite at first,
 - I couldn't eat the first curry I tried in Thailand,
 - The tourist season used to finish in September,
- as she isn't used to cycling long distances.
 - but I'm not so scared of it now.
 - as I'm not used to eating spicy food.
 - but I got used to them quite quickly.
 - but people seem to travel all year now.
 - but we're getting used to it now.

5 Complete the chatroom posts with the correct form of the verbs. Use short forms where possible.

Ali Add message | Report

I¹ (go) to Croatia last month to stay with a girl I met online, Nika. I² (never/travel) abroad without my parents before and I really³ (miss) them. Nika and I⁴ (not/get on) from Day 1. It was strange because we⁵ (write) to each other for ages and we seemed to like the same things. I⁶ (be due/stay) three weeks and I lasted only one! 😞

Tanya Add message | Report

Last summer holidays I⁷ (go/have) a week in Boston with my best friend's family. I⁸ (look forward) to it for ages, but then suddenly my parents said no. They⁹ (used/have) us all together over the summer. I¹⁰ (already/make) loads of holiday plans, but dad¹¹ (not think) it was fair on my brother! 😞