

Grammar: past and present tenses

1 Complete the sentences below with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 It was the most beautiful sunset I _____ (ever / see).
- 2 I _____ (walk) for hours and my feet ached.
- 3 Jim _____ (listen) to the radio when I called him.
- 4 I _____ (never / be) abroad so I think I'll go to France next year.
- 5 Pete said he _____ (not / call) me yesterday because he was studying.
- 6 It _____ (take) eight minutes for the light from the sun to reach Earth.
- 7 'David _____ (go) into town. Do you want him to get anything?'
- 8 I _____ (sit) in front of this computer all day. It's time I took a break.

2 Underline the correct word or phrase in each sentence.

- 1 The children *ate* / *have eaten* / *have been eating* the biscuits already. I only bought them an hour ago!
- 2 While I *walked* / *was walking* / *have been walking* into town, I saw an accident.
- 3 Peter *works* / *has worked* / *has been working* on the project for a week now.
- 4 I *broke* / *was breaking* / *have broken* my leg in a skiing accident last May.
- 5 Julian *chopped* / *was chopping* / *has been chopping* the vegetables while I made the sauce.
- 6 I *didn't read* / *haven't read* / *haven't been reading* the book yet because I'm so busy.
- 7 Lillian *has* / *is having* / *has been having* her piano lesson at the moment.
- 8 What *did you do* / *were you doing* / *have you been doing*? You're covered in mud.

3 Complete the sentences that follow in your own words.

- 1 Late last night I _____ when _____.
- 2 What _____ this time next week?
- 3 Have you _____ any time recently?
- 4 I had already _____ when _____.
- 5 I'm _____ if you'd like to come too.



4 Read the text and complete the gaps with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

I (1) _____ (not / forget) the first time our team played in a knock-out football tournament. No one (2) _____ (expect) us to get as far as we did – all the way to the final – as we were generally considered to be the outsiders, but knowing we might be up against the long standing champions, we (3) _____ (train) every day for months.

On the day of the match, I (4) _____ (wake) to see that the sun (5) _____ (shine). I (6) _____ (put) on my football kit and (7) _____ (wait) eagerly for Dad to announce it was time to go. When we (8) _____ (arrive) at the football pitch I joined my team mates who (9) _____ (already / do) warm ups and there was a definite sense of excitement and tension in the air. Our coach said, 'Remember, you (10) _____ (train) for the past year for this moment. Give it all you've got!'

We (11) _____ (march) out onto the field, and after shaking hands with each other, the referee (12) _____ (toss) his coin and (13) _____ (blow) his whistle. The next 90 minutes (14) _____ (pass) in a blur, but I could hear kids from our school who (15) _____ (cheer) us on. The other team (16) _____ (put) pressure on us the whole time and there were some close shaves, until finally in the second half they managed to score. It (17) _____ (begin) to look bad for us; with only five minutes left of the game we were one goal down. Suddenly I (18) _____ (see) my chance! Thanks to a straight pass from a team mate I (19) _____ (kick) the ball straight into the net. The whistle blew. It (20) _____ (be) a draw, but then we went to penalties and beat them: five goals to four!