

Grammar in context 1

Past simple

- 1 ☆ Write the past simple form of the verbs. Numbers 4–8 are irregular.

1 hack	5 write
2 study	6 drink
3 travel	7 eat
4 go	8 have

- 2 ☆☆ Complete the dialogue with the verbs in the past simple and short answers. Write one word in each gap.

Sam: (a) _____ you _____ (see) the documentary on TV last night?
 Ella: No, I (b) _____. I (c) _____ (have) a terrible night last night!
 Sam: Really? What (d) _____ (happen)?
 Ella: Someone (e) _____ (break) into our house!
 Sam: Oh, no! (f) _____ they _____ (steal) anything?
 Ella: Yes, they (g) _____. They (h) _____ (take) two expensive cameras and they also (i) _____ (steal) my dad's credit cards.

- 3 ☆☆ Complete the text on the right with the past simple form of the verbs in the boxes.

- 4 ☆☆☆ Write questions for the underlined words.

- The men met in a pub.
- Their planning took three years.
- The men arrived at 9.20 pm.
- The really hard part of the job was to penetrate a wall 50 cm thick.
- They stole about £200 million.

Grammar challenge ☆☆☆

- 5 Find and correct 10 mistakes in the text.

Ronnie Biggs has become famous in 1963 for his part in the Great Train Robbery, when a gang of criminals steal 2.6 million pounds from a train. Biggs is not having a big part in the crime, but the police catches him and he goes to prison. Two years later he has escaped to Paris and has changed his appearance. In 1970 he is leaving France. Then, in Australia, he is working in a TV studio, but a reporter has recognised him.

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| 1 _____ | 6 _____ |
| 2 _____ | 7 _____ |
| 3 _____ | 8 _____ |
| 4 _____ | 9 _____ |
| 5 _____ | 10 _____ |

THE £200 MILLION ROBBERY



be • finish • know • meet • not talk

For three years, a group of eight elderly men (a) _____ in a pub in north London every week. However, they (b) _____ about normal things like sport, their families or politics. Their conversation (c) _____ always about the same subject: how to steal money from an enormous safe under the ground in central London. Finally, after three years, their planning (d) _____ and they all (e) _____ what they had to do.

arrive • climb • come • have • need

At 9.20 pm on Thursday 2nd April 1963, they (f) _____ at the Hatton Garden Safe Deposit Company. They (g) _____ four days to complete the job because Friday and Monday were holidays. First, they (h) _____ down the vertical tunnel used by the lift. Then they (i) _____ to the really hard part of the job. They (j) _____ to penetrate a wall 50 cm thick.



break • catch • not last • manage • record • take • try

In total, it (k) _____ them two days because their equipment (l) _____ the first time they (m) _____ to do it! Finally, they (n) _____ to steal about £200 million! However, their happiness (o) _____ long. The police (p) _____ them very quickly because CCTV cameras (q) _____ the whole robbery!