

Empower B1 U12A

GRAMMAR Past perfect

a Complete the sentences with the past perfect forms of the verbs in the box.

steal work get up miss stop leave begin finish

- 1 By the time we got to the station, my sister's train had already left.
- 2 When my grandmother phoned, I _____ just _____ doing my homework.
- 3 He _____ really hard at school all year, so he got excellent marks in his exams.
- 4 Anthony arrived late for school this morning because he _____ late.
- 5 When they got to the cinema, the film _____ just _____.
- 6 When he got back from holiday, he found that someone _____ his car.
- 7 We had to take a taxi home from the station because we _____ the last bus.
- 8 The two men _____ arguing by the time the police arrived.

b Complete the text with the past simple or past perfect forms of the verbs in brackets.

We ¹had (have) a terrible journey on the way to Barcelona.

The problems ²begin (begin) when we ³leave (leave) home at 6.30 in the morning. There ⁴be (be) a huge traffic jam on the motorway because two lorries ⁵crash (crash) and the road ⁶be (be) completely blocked.

By the time we ⁷reach (reach) the airport, we ⁸miss (miss) our flight. It ⁹take (take) off five minutes before we ¹⁰arrive (arrive) at the check-in desk. We ¹¹try (try) to buy some tickets for the next flight to Barcelona, but they ¹²sell (sell) all the seats. In the end, we ¹³buy (buy) tickets for a flight at 7 o'clock that evening and ¹⁴spend (spend) the whole day at the airport.

We ¹⁵land (land) in Barcelona at 21:45, but we ¹⁶not collect (not collect) our suitcases from the arrivals hall until 11 o'clock because there ¹⁷be (be) a baggage handlers' strike that day. By the time our taxi driver ¹⁸find (find) our hotel, the restaurant ¹⁹close (close), so we ²⁰go (go) straight to bed without having dinner.