

1 GRAMMAR Narrative tenses

a Underline the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 By the time we *were getting / had got / got* to the park, it *had started / started / was starting* snowing heavily so we *were making / made / had made* a snowman.
- 2 While he *cleaned / had cleaned / was cleaning* the window above the door, he *had fallen / fell / was falling* off the chair and *broke / was breaking / had broken* his leg.
- 3 By the time it *stopped / had stopped / was stopping* raining, it *was / was being / had been* too late to go to the beach.
- 4 When the two police officers *were ringing / rang / had rung* my doorbell, I *was having / had / had had* dinner.
- 5 Barbara *was meeting / met / had met* him in 2010 while she *was working / worked / had worked* in Berlin.
- 6 When I *was seeing / had seen / saw* Mario yesterday, he *looked / was looking / had looked* sad because his pet rabbit *escaped / had escaped / was escaping* the day before.
- 7 They *talked / were talking / had talked* about the accident when the ambulance *had arrived / was arriving / arrived*.

b Complete the sentences with the past simple, the past continuous or the past perfect forms of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 He met (meet) his girlfriend while they studied (study) together at Oxford University.
- 2 We left (leave) Barcelona on Monday morning and by Wednesday evening we cycled (cycle) 275 kilometres.
- 3 By the time the police arrived (arrive), the bank robbers escaped (escape) in their car.
- 4 This morning she rode (ride) her bike around the lake and took (take) photos of the birds.
- 5 She heard (hear) the fireworks while she watched (watch) a film on TV.
- 6 The car crashed (crash) into the tree while they crossed (cross) the road.
- 7 The restaurant closed (close) by the time we got (get) there.
- 8 Ibrahim called (call) me while he waited (wait) for his flight.