

Complete this story about a journey, using the past simple and the correct verbs from the box. Use short forms for negatives.

get not stay drive be (x2) shout not speak come not go make  
not start not say arrive start go not arrive want

Yesterday I went<sup>0</sup> on a day trip. My friend Liam .....<sup>1</sup> with me. The day .....<sup>2</sup> well because Liam .....<sup>3</sup> at my house late. He .....<sup>4</sup> why he .....<sup>5</sup> late and I .....<sup>6</sup> at him. Then we .....<sup>7</sup> our journey. I .....<sup>8</sup> the car. A bit later, we .....<sup>9</sup> lost. We .....<sup>10</sup> to go to the seaside but we .....<sup>11</sup> a bad mistake and we .....<sup>12</sup> in the right direction. We .....<sup>13</sup> at the beach until very late in the day, so we .....<sup>14</sup> for a long time. On the way home, we .....<sup>15</sup> to each other at all. We .....<sup>16</sup> both very angry.

## The road to fame

Complete this interview with a famous singer, using the past simple and the correct words from the box.

offer play you feel happen appear be not earn  
you become help it happen see leave enjoy buy want make  
~~you start~~ take ask know have

INTERVIEWER When did you start<sup>0</sup> singing in the band?  
MIA Well, I .....<sup>1</sup> 19 years old. The original singer .....<sup>2</sup> the band and the others .....<sup>3</sup> me to replace him.  
INTERVIEWER .....<sup>4</sup> successful very quickly?  
MIA No, it .....<sup>5</sup> a long time. We .....<sup>6</sup> in small clubs for many years and we .....<sup>7</sup> much money.  
INTERVIEWER .....<sup>8</sup> unhappy then?  
MIA No, we .....<sup>9</sup> ourselves. We .....<sup>10</sup> a great time. But we .....<sup>11</sup> to succeed.  
INTERVIEWER How .....<sup>12</sup>?  
MIA Well, a manager .....<sup>13</sup> us playing in a small club and he .....<sup>14</sup> to be our manager. He .....<sup>15</sup> a lot about the music business and he .....<sup>16</sup> us a lot. Because of him, we .....<sup>17</sup> on a TV show. Then we .....<sup>18</sup> a record and lots of people .....<sup>19</sup> it. Everything .....<sup>20</sup> very quickly then.



Complete these sentences about someone's day at work, using the past simple or the past continuous forms of the verbs in brackets.

- 0 While I was travelling (travel) to work, I got (get) stuck in traffic jam.
- 1 When I ..... (arrive) at work, my boss ..... (speak) to someone on the phone.
- 2 At 11 a.m., I ..... (do) some work when the boss ..... (ask) to see me.
- 3 While I ..... (talk) to my boss, his phone ..... (ring) several times.
- 4 When I ..... (come) out of the boss's office, people ..... (not work), they ..... (look) at me.
- 5 At 1 o'clock, I ..... (stop) work and I ..... (go) for lunch.
- 6 While I ..... (eat) my lunch, a colleague ..... (come) to my table.
- 7 While we ..... (sit) together, he ..... (ask) me a question.
- 8 He asked me: 'What ..... (the boss/talk) about while you ..... (sit) in his office?'
- 9 I said: 'When I ..... (go) into his office, I ..... (feel) nervous, but he ..... (smile).'
- 10 While we ..... (talk), he ..... (offer) me a much better job.'

In exercises B, D and E, there are three phrases with *get*. Complete each phrase. The meaning of each one is in brackets:

- A** *get* .....  
(be unable to find your way to a place)
- B** *get* .....  
(marry someone)
- C** *get* .....  
(be unable to move or progress)

## Travel writers

Complete this story, using the past simple or the past continuous form of the correct verbs from the box. You will need to use some of the verbs more than once.

plan ask have decide meet travel come sit write give  
discover become start make do chat continue not like live

Joan was living<sup>0</sup> in Paris when she .....<sup>1</sup> Paul. She .....<sup>2</sup> in a café when he .....<sup>3</sup> to her table and .....<sup>4</sup> if he could sit there. They .....<sup>5</sup> talking and while they .....<sup>6</sup>, they .....<sup>7</sup> that they .....<sup>8</sup> a lot in common. Both of them .....<sup>9</sup> novels and both of them .....<sup>10</sup> jobs that they .....<sup>11</sup>. They .....<sup>12</sup> very good friends.

One day, while they .....<sup>13</sup> lunch in the same café, they .....<sup>14</sup> an idea. They .....<sup>15</sup> to travel around the world together. While they .....<sup>16</sup> their trip, they .....<sup>17</sup> working. Then they .....<sup>18</sup> up their jobs and they .....<sup>19</sup> their journey. While they .....<sup>20</sup>, they .....<sup>21</sup> all sorts of adventures, and they .....<sup>22</sup> all sorts of interesting people. They .....<sup>23</sup> lots of notes while they .....<sup>24</sup> these experiences. When they .....<sup>25</sup> home again, both of them .....<sup>26</sup> books about their journey.



**C4** Read this email and underline the best tense for each verb.

Hi Bea

A funny thing 1 happened/was happening to me and my flatmates on Saturday.

On Friday night we 2 went/were going to the college party. There were some new students there and we 3 met/were meeting someone called Lucas. We 4 invited/were inviting him to Sunday lunch. It was a great party so we 5 didn't go/weren't going home until three o'clock.

Of course, we 6 didn't get/weren't getting up early on Saturday morning. At half past twelve I 7 watched/was watching TV in my pyjamas, Marie 8 had/was having a shower and Wendy 9 read/was reading a magazine. Suddenly someone 10 rang/was ringing the doorbell. I 11 looked/was looking out of the window to see who was there. Lucas 12 stood/was standing on the step. I 13 went/was going to the door but I 14 didn't open/wasn't opening it. I said 'Hello?' and he said 'Hello, I've come for lunch.' Oh no! He'd got the wrong day!!

We 15 got/were getting dressed in three minutes! Luckily we 16 had/were having enough food, and he seemed to enjoy it. How was your weekend? Love Annette

**C5** Read this newspaper article and put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense, past simple or past continuous.

## *An honest customer*

Yesterday Jon Atkins 1 went (go) into Harpers' Art Gallery at the end of the afternoon. He 2 ..... (want) to buy a present for his mother. It 3 ..... (be) nearly closing time and owner Michael Harper 4 ..... (count) the money. Quickly Jon 5 ..... (choose) a small picture and Mr Harper 6 ..... (wrap) it for him. While 7 he ..... (wait) for his bus, Jon 8 ..... (decide) to look at the picture again. In the parcel he 9 ..... (find) £500 in cash as well as the picture. He

10 ..... (run) back to the shop. It was closed so Jon 11 ..... (look) through the window.

Michael Harper 12 ..... (search) under the counter, and his assistants 13 ..... (look) in all the cupboards and drawers. 'I 14 ..... (knock) on the window and 15 ..... (wave) the money at them' said Jon.

'I was so happy,' said Mr Harper. 'It's wonderful to know that there are honest people like Jon.'

Complete the sentences by using the correct form of the verbs in brackets and choosing the correct alternative where necessary. Use the Past Simple or Past Continuous together with any other words given.

- 1 She *would/used to* know everyone in the neighbourhood before they ..... (build) all those blocks of luxury flats.
- 2 We ..... (watch) television when we ..... (hear) the alarm go off.
- 3 When we ..... (be) young, Grandma *would tell/was telling* us a story before we ..... (go) to bed.
- 4 ..... (you know) her before she ..... (move) into the flat next to yours.
- 5 Carrie ..... (fall) asleep when the film ..... (begin) and ..... (not wake up) until the end.
- 6 Why ..... (you tell) your sister that we ..... (have) an argument with my parents last night?
- 7 ..... (he work) on the car when I ..... (phone) yesterday afternoon?
- 8 They ..... (not live) in London at that time because they ..... (leave) the capital three years ago.
- 9 *Did you use to/Would you* have long hair when you ..... (be) a teenager?
- 10 His neighbours ..... (look) out of their windows as the police ..... (open) the gate, ..... (walk) down the path and ..... (ring) his front doorbell.

Complete the dialogue by using the correct form of the verbs in brackets and any other words given. Use the Past Simple or the Past Continuous.

- Mother: When we (1) ..... (get) home, you two (2) ..... (shout) at each other. Why?
- Alison: I (3) ..... (listen) to my iPod while I (4) ..... (do) my homework when she (5) ..... (take) it from me because hers (6) ..... (have) something wrong with it.
- Mother: What (7) ..... (you do) then?
- Alison: I (8) ..... (ask) her to give it back.
- Debbie: No, (9) ..... (you not ask) for it back, you liar! You (10) ..... (throw) your pen at me.
- Alison: That was because you (11) ..... (start) laughing while I (12) ..... (try) to get it back.
- Mother: OK. You're both grounded for a week!
- Alison, That's not fair!
- Debbie: