

MINI TEST 5

PAST SIMPLE, PAST PERFECT SIMPLE, PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Exercise 1

Fill in the gaps with the past perfect simple of the verbs in brackets in the positive or negative.

According to Dr Ken Winkle, Australia's Red-back spider is colonising the world. Dr Winkle, a venom expert from the University of Melbourne, said that authorities 1 had found (find) Red-back spiders in Japan and Belgium. They suspected that spiders or their eggs 2 (enter) these countries along with Australian trading goods. Furthermore, it was extremely likely that the spiders 3 (make) their way into other nations around the world but that people 4 (discover) them yet. Dr Winkle said the spiders 5 (also/turn up) in the port city of Osaka (which receives a variety of Australian trade goods) in the late 1990s and 6 (multiply) quickly. He said Australian spider experts were collaborating with Japanese officials to find a way to stop the venomous invader.

Exercise 2

Fill in the gaps with the past simple, past perfect simple or past perfect continuous of the verbs in brackets.

Last year my friends arranged (1 arrange) for us to try fire-walking, which is when you walk on hot coals. I (2 always/be) fascinated by it and I (3 hear) people say it was an unforgettable experience. I was very excited when I (4 arrive) on the day, although beforehand I (5 feel) a little frightened! My friends and I (6 come) in the hope that by the end of the day we would be able to say we (7 walk) across hot, burning coals.

Our teacher was very good, and by teatime we (8 learnt) a great deal and (9 prepare) the fires. I (10 expect) to be terrified when the time came to walk, but as I (11 take off) my shoes and socks I (12 not/feel) afraid. I (13 approach) the coals as all my friends before me (14 do), and started walking! I could feel the heat, but as I (15 step) back onto the grass at the other end I knew the coals (16 not/burn) my feet at all. As I (17 hope), all my friends (18 manage) the walk and none of us were burnt. The whole experience was amazing, and I just wished I (19 do) it sooner.