

PAST TENSES FOR WRITING STORIES

Writing Part 2

GRAMMAR: PAST TENSES

 B1 Preliminary candidates often make mistakes when using past tenses.

1 Match the sentences to their descriptions.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 I went there last Saturday. | a Something that was happening in the past. |
| 2 She was playing volleyball all day. | b A past event which happened before another past event. |
| 3 After he had watched the film he went outside. | c A single event in the past. |

2 Complete the sentence with the past simple or past continuous form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 He an apple when the teacher into the classroom. (eat, come)
- 2 Do you know what Henry all evening? There was a lot of noise! (do)
- 3 My mum when she saw my exam result. (smile)
- 4 My brother a glass while he the washing up. (break, do)
- 5 Joe until 10 o'clock yesterday morning. (not wake up)
- 6 We to the cinema last weekend and we a great film. (go, see)
- 7 I a police car while I home from school. (saw, walk)
- 8 Dad me to school this morning because I late. (drive, be)

3 Circle the correct tense in each sentence.

- 1 After I *was going* / *went* outside, I *realised* / *was realising* that I *forgot* / *had forgotten* my keys.
- 2 Clare *was standing* / *stood* at the bus stop when Martin *arrived* / *had arrived* there.
- 3 After I *had eaten* / *was eating* all the chips, mum *told* / *had told* me they were for my dad.
- 4 Sue *had spent* / *was spending* all morning in the park before she *had come* / *came* to my house.
- 5 My brother *played* / *had played* football yesterday until it *started* / *was starting* to rain.
- 6 While Tom *was waiting* / *had waited* at the station, he *saw* / *had seen* a poster for a band that he *hadn't heard* / *didn't hear* before.