Past Forms

2

4 **Listen and repeat. Then act out.**



Past Simple	Past Continuous	Past Perfect	Past Perfect Continuous
past actions which happened immediately one after the other *She **sealed** the letter, **put** a stamp on it and **posted** it.*	**two or more simultaneous past actions** *While I **was sunbathing**, Tim **was swimming**.*	**past action which occurred before another past action or before a specific time in the past** *He **had left** by the time I got there. (or by 8:15 pm)*	**emphasis on the duration of an action which started and finished in the past before another past action or a stated time in the past** *She **had been working** as a clerk **for 10 years** before she resigned.*
action or event which happened at a stated past time *She **called** an hour **ago**.* (When? An hour ago.)	**action in progress at a stated time in the past** *He **was playing** tennis at 4:30 pm yesterday.*	**complete past action which had visible results in the past** *She was sad because she **had failed** the test.*	**past action of certain duration which had visible results in the past** *They were wet because they **had been walking** in the rain.*
action which happened at a definite past time. The action was completed in the past. *Shakespeare **wrote** a lot of plays.* (Shakespeare is now dead; he won't write again.)	**past action in progress interrupted by another past action. The longer action is in the Past Continuous, the shorter action is in the Past Simple.** *While I **was getting dressed** the bell rang.*	**the Past Perfect is the past equivalent of the Present Perfect** *(He can't find his watch. He has lost it.) He couldn't find his watch. He **had lost** it.*	**the Past Perfect Continuous is the past equivalent of the Present Perfect Continuous** *(She is going to the doctor. Her leg has been aching for two days.) She went to the doctor. Her leg **had been aching** for two days.*
past habit or state *He **used to go** / **went** to school on foot.*	**background description to events in a story** *She **was flying** to Paris. The sun **was shining**...*		

Time expressions used with:	
Past Simple	yesterday, last week, etc. (how long) ago, then, just now, when, in 1967, etc.
Past Continuous	while, when, as, etc.
Past Perfect	for, since, already, after, just, never, yet, before, by, by the time, etc.
Past Perfect Continuous	for, since

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Past Forms

1 Write the past simple form of the verbs in the list in the correct column. Then read them out.

~~like~~	~~cry~~	dance	smile	travel	delay	live	empty
~~stop~~	~~play~~	fry	rob	try	stay	prefer	destroy

-e +d	double consonant + ed	consonant + y → ied	vowel + y + ed
liked,	stopped,	cried,	played,

2 Add -(e)d to the verbs, put them in the correct column, then read them out.

~~land~~	~~smile~~	correct	slip	decorate	offer	dress	water	suggest
~~look~~	watch	start	smash	cook	collect	prepare	iron	clean

/ɪd/ after /t/, /d/	/t/ after /k/, /s/, /ʃ/, /p/, /tʃ/	/d/ after other sounds
landed,	looked,	smiled,

3 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past form, then match them to their uses.

• ~~past habit~~ • past action of certain duration with visible results in the past • simultaneous past actions • complete past action with visible results in the past • past action in progress interrupted by another past action • action continuing over a period up to a specific time in the past



1 When she was young, she .....danced..... **(dance)** a lot.

.....past habit.....



2 John ..... **(drive)** home when his car ..... **(break down)**.

.....



3 Ted ..... **(read)** a book while Mary ..... **(watch)** TV at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

.....



4 He was tired. He ..... **(work)** on his computer all night.

.....



5 She was upset because she ..... **(lose)** her watch.

.....



6 She ..... **(wait)** for an hour before the bus ..... **(come)**.

.....

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4 Match the sentences (1–12) with the correct description (a–l).

1 It was raining and the wind was blowing.
2 He was exhausted because he had been walking all day.
3 There was no milk left because Jack had drunk it all.
4 She had finished by 8 o'clock.
5 The storm broke out after we had been driving for four hours.
6 He got into the car, started the engine and drove away.
7 The party had already started by the time I arrived.
8 Heath Ledger died in 2008.
9 I was cycling to work when I fell off my bike.
10 The Beatles made lots of records.
11 I was sleeping at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.
12 She had been trying to find a job in Hollywood for years before she moved to Miami.

a past equivalent of the Present Perfect
b action that was in progress at a stated past time
c past actions which happened one after the other
d action which is not connected with the present and happened at a definite past time not mentioned
e background description to events in a story
f emphasis on the duration of an action which started and finished in the past before another past action or a stated time in the past
g past equivalent of the Present Perfect Continuous
h past action which occurred before another action
i past action in progress interrupted by another
j past action which occurred before a stated time in the past
k event which happened at a stated past time
l past action of certain duration which had visible results in the past

1 ...e....	3	5	7	9	11 .....
2	4	6	8	10	12 .....

5 Alex and his family travelled to Moscow last month. Look at the notes below and say what they did on Friday, using the linking words from the list.

after that next finally later first then



FRIDAY
8:30 am – 9:30 am: have breakfast at hotel
9:30 am – 12:00 pm: see the Kremlin
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm: visit St Basil's Cathedral
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm: eat lunch at one of the many restaurants along the Arbat
3:00 pm – 6:00 pm: shop at GUM shopping centre
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm: have dinner at One Red Square restaurant
7:30 pm – 10:00 pm: attend a ballet performance at the Bolshoi Theatre

S1: *First, they had breakfast at the hotel.*

Now, in pairs, ask and answer questions about what Alex and his family were doing at the times listed below as in the example:

• 9:00 am • 11:45 am • 12:30 pm • 2:00 pm • 4:30 pm • 7:15 pm • 9:45 pm

A: *What were Alex and his family doing at nine o'clock in the morning?*
B: *They were having breakfast at the hotel.*

LIVEWORKSHEETS