

Cambridge Grammar

Narrative Tenses

Read the theory and solve the activities.

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

- 1 I 'd never ridden (never ride) a bike until I went (go) to live in Amsterdam.
- 2 When Martin _____ (come) into the room, his mother nearly _____ (faint) because she _____ (not see) him for nearly 20 years.
- 3 We were held up in a traffic jam so the concert _____ (begin) by the time we _____ (arrive).
- 4 How long _____ (you / apply) for jobs when you _____ (get) this one?
- 5 I _____ (not see) Lisa when I went round last night because she _____ (go) to stay with her grandmother.
- 6 I _____ (drive) for about four hours when I _____ (realise) that I was completely lost.
- 7 When I _____ (go) into the room, everyone _____ (stop) talking and _____ (look) at me.
- 8 After he _____ (wash) his clothes, he _____ (hang) them outside to dry.
- 9 The manager was shocked when he _____ (discover) that Jane was a thief. Up until then he _____ (believe) that she was completely honest.
- 10 (you / ever do) _____ any carpentry before you _____ (build) that cupboard?

6 Fill in the gaps with the past simple, past perfect or past perfect continuous form of these verbs.

agree answer arrange arrive bang come forget have hear move phone play

The band played on ...

I had a rather embarrassing experience last year. At that time I played in a band with some friends of mine and, rather nervously, we (1) 'd agreed to provide the music at a friend's wedding. We (2) _____ together for about three months and it was the first booking we (3) _____ (ever) so we'd been practising really hard. The wedding was on a Saturday.



The day before the wedding I had moved to a new flat so I (4) _____ furniture all day and gone to bed exhausted. At nine o'clock on the Saturday morning the rest of the band met, as we (5) _____, to practise. They kept phoning me but I (6) _____ (not). So in the end one of them (7) _____ round and (8) _____ on my door for fifteen minutes until I woke up.

He told me that they (9) _____ me all morning. I (10) _____ (not) anything and I nearly missed the wedding. Then, when I finally (11) _____ at the wedding, I realised that I (12) _____ my guitar.

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