

Grammar

Past perfect simple and continuous

1 Choose the correct alternatives.

- By the time we got to the café, they *stopped/d stopped* serving food.
- I sat down and started reading the book that I'd just *bought/been buying*.
- The TV series that we'd *watched/been watching* for weeks had a disappointing ending.
- The sun *had been shining/shone* all day, so we were disappointed when it went in.
- I *never/d never* heard of the band that were playing on the radio before.
- We didn't get into the match even though we *were/d been* queueing for hours.
- Tom had already *ordered/been ordering* some food by the time I arrived.
- Paula went to bed early because she *worked/had been working* for over 12 hours.

2 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

A vivid memory. But whose?



Memories are strange. I have one memory that I can recall really clearly from when I was six. I lived with my parents in the small, terraced house that they ¹ _____ (buy) just after I was born. I went outside to play on my scooter. I remember that it ² _____ (rain) for hours so I soon got wet but I didn't mind. After I ³ _____ (ride) around for a little while, the woman next door invited me in. She wanted me to try some of the cake she ⁴ _____ (just/make). In fact, she ⁵ _____ (bake) all day and ⁶ _____ (make) several different types of cake. I picked the chocolate one and she cut me a slice.

While I ate, the woman showed me photos that her son ⁷ _____ (sent) of her grandchildren. Her son ⁸ _____ (already/move) to Australia by the time his children were born so she ⁹ _____ (never/meet) them. I think she was sad about that.

Anyway, I put the last bite of cake in my mouth and started choking. I couldn't breathe and started to panic. Fortunately, the woman ¹⁰ _____ (be) a nurse so knew exactly what to do. She turned me upside down and hit me on my back. The cake fell out and I could breathe again.

So, why is this memory strange? Well, it's really clear in my mind, so much so that it feels like it happened yesterday. And yet, the funny thing is, I don't actually remember it, but I've been told the story so many times by my mum, that I feel I like do.

Vocabulary

Memory

3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in the box.

forget memorable memorise
memory (x2) mind recall remind

- I have a good _____ for faces but I never remember people's names.
- Your perfume _____ me of those pink flowers in our garden.
- I have to _____ all of these words before my English test next week.
- I can still _____ the first day I met you.
- What did we have for lunch? I've got no _____ of it at all!
- I loved our wedding. It was such a _____ day.
- When you visit Grandad, bear in _____ that he's not very well.
- Don't _____ to buy Mum a birthday present.

4 Complete the conversations using the prompts in brackets and other words you need.

- A: _____
(you / recall / name) of that hotel we stayed in last week?
B: The King's Hotel, I think.
- A: _____
(this music / remind you / anything)?
B: No, why? Should it?
- A: Well, _____
(that meeting / memorable).
B: Yes, it was but for all the wrong reasons!
- A: How come you can remember my mobile number but I can't?
B: _____
(I / always / good / memory / numbers).
- A: _____
(I / will / never / forget / time) that you called the teacher 'Dad'.
B: Oh yes – that was so embarrassing!
- A: We had this same conversation last week.
B: Did we? _____
(I / no memory / it at all). Sorry!
- A: _____
(None of us / need / memorise / history dates) any more.
B: You're right. We can just look them up online!