

CHANGE OF PLANS



Look at the underlined expressions.

- They describe a simple past event
- they describe a future idea seen from the past

CHARLIZE THERON

Charlize Theron, originally from South Africa, was to have been a ballerina. However, she suffered a career-ending injury to her knee that meant she had to abandon her childhood dream. Instead, she decided she would turn to acting. After finding it difficult to land speaking roles, she watched hours of television to try to pick up an American accent. But, the roles still didn't come and although she was getting modeling work, money was tight. One day she was trying to cash a check at the bank but the teller said he was not going to accept it. Theron started to argue with the teller, making a scene in the bank as she tried to explain that she was about to be thrown out of her apartment if she couldn't cash the check. Eventually a man in the line behind her came over to help resolve the situation and, after she had her money, he gave her his business card – he was an agent. A couple of months later, Theron had landed her first movie role.



ANDREA BOCELLI

World-famous opera singer Andrea Bocelli was supposed to have a very different career. Although he displayed a clear talent for music from an early age, his parents encouraged him to study law so that he would always have a steady income. Following his parents' advice, he attended law school and became a lawyer. However, he also continued with his music – playing in piano bars in the evenings to earn money for singing lessons. It was at one of these bars where he got the lucky break that was to launch his career. Zucchero, a famous Italian singer, heard him sing, and thought that he would be perfect for a demo he wanted to make. As a result of that meeting, Bocelli ended up going on tour with Zucchero. Bocelli even sang at Zucchero's birthday party – and was immediately signed up by an agent at the party. The agent knew he was going to be a big star – and she was right.



I think... makes sense

- 1 I couldn't go to the party because I **would take / was taking** a test the next day.
- 2 When we were at school together, he was **becoming / going to become** a doctor.
- 3 They thought it **will / would** be fun to play a trick on us.
- 4 Our new TV was to have been **delivered / delivering** yesterday but it didn't come.
- 5 I was **about / about to** ask him where he got the money when he made an excuse and left.
- 6 When the movie was released, few people thought it **would be / was being** a success.
- 7 The fingerprints found at the scene of the crime **were being / were to be** vital in solving it.
- 8 Thinking there was no way he **was going / would** to get into college, he didn't even apply.

What were some of your future plans some years ago?

BE + WAS ABOUT TO

A day that I was not able to complete something important

WOULD TURN TO BE

A morning you forgot something

WAS TO HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

A day when something planned turned out wrong

WOULD TURN TO BE

A moment when you got lost

WAS TO HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

A day that you didn't make it to something already organized

BE + WAS ABOUT TO

A time when you didn't make it to the movies or to something already organized