

Narrative tenses, used to, would

Fill in the gaps with the verbs in brackets in the correct verb tense or form. Use would/used to in a couple of gaps.

A long time ago, my first wife and I _____ (decide) to go on a trip to London for a few days. Before the trip, we were very excited because we _____ (never/be) to London before.

We _____ (want) to visit Miguel, a close friend who _____ (move) to Britain for work and who _____ (work) in London for a couple of months. He was very homesick because he still _____ (not have) any friends in England, and Laura and I _____ (want) to pay him a visit to cheer him up a bit. However, Miguel _____ (tell) us we had to stay in a hotel, because he _____ (rent) a room in a shared flat and we couldn't stay in his home.

Back then, when my ex-wife and I travelled anywhere, we _____ (book) hotel rooms well in advance, and we _____ (check) hotel reviews on TripAdvisor every time, but this time we _____ (be) very busy the weeks before the trip so a few days before the trip, we _____ (decide) that we would look for a hotel once in London. Unfortunately, hotel rooms in London are quite popular in August, and several hours after our arrival in the big capital we still _____ (not find) a room in any affordable place.

Eventually we _____ (find) a hotel which, surprisingly, was well located and not very expensive. But we soon _____ (discover) why there were available rooms in that so well-located hotel. To start with, the room number was a scribble written on a sheet of paper that someone _____ (hang) on the door with sellotape, and once you were in, the room was dirty and horribly smelly. It looked as if nobody _____ (clean) it for ages. In the bathroom there

was no mirror, the toilet was clogged and there were lots of hairs in the basin. It was so disgusting that we _____ (decide) to pay for a much more expensive room in a much less well-located hotel and we _____ (end up) as depressed as our good friend Miguel.