

55 Irregular verbs

A Bad things happen ...

The burglar **set off** the burglar **alarm**, which woke everyone up, but he **ran away** before we saw him.

I **set** my alarm clock last night, but I still **overslept**. I **sprang out of** bed and tripped over my shoes.

Last week it was so cold that our pipes **froze** in the bathroom, and then they **burst**. It made a terrible mess, but fortunately my husband was at home and **dealt with** it.

We were on the lake when our little boat **sank**. We managed to swim to the shore and then **lay** there exhausted, not sure what to do. As it **grew** darker, we started to feel cold and miserable.

GLOSSARY

set sth off <i>pt/pp set</i> alarm	do sth that starts a reaction a machine that warns you of a danger by ringing a loud bell: a fire/burglar alarm
run away <i>pt ran pp run</i> set <i>pt/pp set</i>	escape from somewhere prepare or arrange sth for a particular purpose
oversleep <i>pt/pp overslept</i> spring <i>pt sprang pp sprung</i>	sleep longer than you should have done jump or move quickly: spring out of bed / to your feet
freeze <i>pt froze pp frozen</i> burst <i>pt burst pp burst</i>	become hard and often change into ice break open suddenly and violently, usually because there is too much pressure inside
deal with sth/sb <i>pt/pp dealt</i> sink <i>pt sank pp sunk</i>	take action in a situation in order to solve a problem go down, or make sth go down under the surface of a liquid or soft substance
lie <i>pt lay pp lain</i> grow <i>pt grew pt grown</i>	be in a flat or horizontal position, not standing or sitting become: grow dark/old/bored

1 Circle the past participles.

froze ran sprung grew run overslept burst dealt sank set spring frozen lay grown

2 Complete the dialogues.

- What time did you get up? ~ I set the alarm for 7.00 but didn't get up until 7.30.
- What was the cause of the accident? ~ A tyre _____, and the car went out of control.
- Why were you late for work? ~ Because I _____.
- The water in the dog's bowl has _____! ~ That's not surprising: the temperature fell below zero last night.
- What happened to the boat? ~ It _____ because there was a hole in the bottom of it.
- Has Rina solved the problem with the keys? ~ Yes, she's _____ it.
- Did you feel tired when you woke up? ~ No, I _____ bed.
- Where has Freddie gone? ~ He was frightened of the horse and _____.
- Was it dark when you drove here this morning? ~ Yes, but it _____ light as I got nearer.
- Were you tired after the journey? ~ Yes, very. I _____ on my bed for an hour and then felt much better.
- Did you hear the fire _____? ~ No, I wasn't at home at the time. Is everything OK?

3 Complete the questions with a suitable verb.

Have you ever:

- overslept before an important exam or meeting?
- _____ out of bed and injured yourself?
- _____ a burglar alarm or a fire alarm?
- had to _____ with a difficult boss, colleague or student?
- _____ a child's balloon?
- _____ an alarm clock for the wrong time?

ABOUT YOU

4 ABOUT YOU Write answers to the questions in Exercise 3, or ask another student.



TEST YOURSELF

B Action verbs



1 He **hung** up his coat.



2 She **hid** behind the sofa.



3 He **threw** the ball.



4 She **shook** the bottle.



5 He **bent** the metal.



6 She **spilt** her drink.



7 I **lit** a fire.



8 Hannah **led** us up the hill.



9 The referee **blew** his whistle.



10 She **tore** the picture into pieces.



11 He **shone** a torch into my eye.



12 She **laid** the baby on the bed.

5 Can you complete the past participles? Use the irregular verbs list on pages 202–204 if necessary.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ▶ hang / hung / <u>hung</u> | 4 blow / blew / _____ | 8 light / lit / _____ |
| 1 hide / hid / _____ | 5 spill / spilt / _____ | 9 tear / tore / _____ |
| 2 throw / threw / _____ | 6 shine / shone / _____ | 10 lay / laid / _____ |
| 3 shake / shook / _____ | 7 bend / bent / _____ | |

6 Cross out the wrong answer.

- ▶ He laid the **newspaper** / **books** / **juice** on the table.
- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 I threw the ball / book / horse . | 5 She spilt some juice / boxes / white coffee on the floor. |
| 2 He hid behind the cup / bed / wardrobe . | 6 I shone a light / torch / fire on the documents. |
| 3 I bent the spoon / pencil / key . | 7 She shook the carton of milk / bottle / wall . |
| 4 I lit the fire / cigarette / water . | 8 He hung up his scarf / gloves / jacket . |

7 Complete the sentences with a suitable verb in the correct form.

- ▶ Don't shake that bottle of fizzy water before you open it!
- The receptionist _____ the guests into the restaurant.
 - Joanna has _____ some tea on her dress, and it's left a mark.
 - Someone _____ a candle so that we could see a bit more clearly.
 - I tried turning the key in the lock. It didn't work and I think I've _____ the key.
 - He saw a soldier coming so he _____ behind a wall.
 - The policemen stopped the man in the street and _____ a torch into his bag.
 - I gave him the letter; he read it and then _____ it into little pieces.
 - I went in quietly, took off my coat and _____ it.
 - The referee has _____ his whistle, so it's the end of the game.
 - I _____ the map on the ground so we could see exactly where we were going.

8 Make sure you know the meaning and irregular forms of the following verbs. Use the to help you and the irregular verb list on pages 202–204.

rise choose spread keep break bring feed



TEST YOURSELF