

PAST TENSES

Recognizing past tenses

Read the text. Use the past verb forms in *italics* to complete the chart.

Past simple (x 7)
Past continuous (x 3)
Past simple passive (x 4)
Past perfect (x 3)
Past perfect continuous (x 1)

Billionaire rips a hole in his Picasso worth \$139 million

Steve Wynn, the billionaire art collector, *felt* extremely embarrassed after he *had damaged* one of his own paintings by putting a hole in the canvas.

Wynn, the 107th-richest man in America, runs hotels and casinos in Las Vegas. He owns a Matisse, a Renoir, a Van Gogh, a Gauguin, and several Warhols.

He *bought* a Picasso, *Le Rêve (The Dream)* in 1997. It *was painted* in 1932, and it depicts Picasso's mistress as she is sitting daydreaming. Wynn *paid* \$48m for it.

Despite being one of his favourite pictures, Wynn *had decided* to sell it. He *had been negotiating* with an investor, Steven Cohen, and they *had agreed* a price of \$139m.

The weekend before the sale, some friends of his *were visiting* from New York, staying in one of his hotels. They *wanted* to see the picture, which *was hanging* in his office, before it *was sold*. Wynn *was standing* in front of the picture and explaining its history when he accidentally *put* his elbow through the canvas.

The picture *was repaired* by an art restorer in New York. It is now impossible to see where it *was damaged*. Not surprisingly, Cohen no longer *wanted to buy* it, so Wynn *put* it in a vault for safe keeping.

