1.4 Grammar

Past Simple, Past Continuous and Present Perfect

GRAMMAR **Past Simple, Past Continuous and Present Perfect**

Past Simple
In 2014 she reached the top of Mount Everest. (finished action)
The temperature often fell as low as –35°C. (repeated action)

Past Continuous
It was raining on Sunday afternoon. (background description)
At three o'clock we were watching a film about Poorna Malavath. (action in progress)

Past Simple and Past Continuous
The teacher was speaking when some officials came into the classroom. (a longer action interrupted by a shorter one)

Present Perfect
She has become famous. (result in the present)
She has climbed Mount Aconcagua. (experience)

Present Perfect and Past Simple
Poorna has climbed many mountains. She climbed Mount Everest in 2014.

1 ● Choose the correct option. Then mark the sentences PS (Past Simple), PC (Past Continuous) or PP (Present Perfect).

1 Roshan *has had* / *was having* dinner with his family at 8 p.m. last night. PC
2 I *got up* / *was getting up* early every day last week. ___
3 *Did you ever have* / *Have you ever had* an unusual pet? ___
4 When we left the cinema, it *rained* / *was raining*, so we took the bus home. ___
5 My older brother *became* / *has become* a father in 2020. ___

2 ●● Use the prompts to make sentences in the Past Simple, Past Continuous or Present Perfect.

1 I / get / home / half an hour ago
I got home half an hour ago.
2 my sister / start / school / last year
_____
3 you / ever / play / baseball / ?
_____
4 we / talk / about Maisie / when / she / walk / in
_____
5 it / snow / when / I / wake up / this morning
_____
6 when / I / be / little, / I / not like / broccoli
_____

3 ●●● Complete the second sentence with the word in bold so that it means the same as the first one. Use no more than four words.

1 I first met Tom when I was five.
I *have known Tom since* I was five. **KNOWN**
2 Jay started watching a film at 7.30 p.m. and finished at 9 p.m.
Jay _____ at 8 p.m. **WAS**
3 Fiona isn't here now because she went to school earlier.
Fiona _____ to school. **GONE**
4 I started having a shower, but then the water went cold.
I _____ when the water went cold. **HAVING**
5 She didn't eat all morning and she didn't eat this afternoon.
She _____ all day. **EATEN**

4 ●●● Complete the dialogue with the Past Simple, Past Continuous or Present Perfect form of the verbs below.

be ~~climb~~ do fall read recover stay visit (x2) walk

A: Hey, Nikki, how was your holiday?
B: Great, thanks! I [1]*climbed* a really big mountain!
A: Wow, really?
B: Yes, it was amazing – the most exciting thing I [2]_____ ever _____, really.
A: I [3]_____ never _____ climbing, but I'd love to try it. So, where did you go?
B: Well, while I [4]_____ with my cousin in Scotland, we decided to climb Ben Nevis.
A: Yes, I [5]_____ all about it – although I [6]_____ never actually _____ Scotland. Wow! So, how was it?
B: Amazing, but while we [7]_____ up, one girl [8]_____ and hurt her leg.
A: Oh no! What happened next?
B: Well, a helicopter came and took her to hospital. She [9]_____ since then and she's fine now. And how was your holiday?
A: Not as exciting as yours – I just [10]_____ my gran in the country.

LIVEWORKSHEETS