1B Past tense contrast

1 **Choose the correct past tenses to complete the text.**

I [1]**started / had started** my own business in 2006. I [2]**left / had left** university the year before and [3]**worked / was working** for a large supermarket, but I [4]**had felt / felt** very bored with my job. One day, while I [5]**helped / was helping** a friend to design his website, I suddenly [6]**realised / had realised** that I could earn some money from my website design skills. I [7]**was doing / had done** a short web design course before I [8]**went / was going** to university and [9]**was really enjoying / had really enjoyed** it. My business [10]**was growing / grew** very quickly and, in 2008, I [11]**left / was leaving** my supermarket job and [12]**started / was starting** to work full-time as a website designer.

2 **The underlined verbs are in the wrong tense. Rewrite the sentences using the correct past tense.**

1 While she was studying German at university, she <u>was meeting</u> her future husband.

_____

2 Before they <u>had left</u> the house, they had closed all the windows.

_____

3 We <u>were walking</u> to the bus stop and took the first bus into town.

_____

4 Jon <u>didn't buy</u> any coffee earlier, so they drank tea.

_____

5 They finished their meal and then <u>had watched</u> a film on TV.

_____

6 It <u>rained</u> and the streets were dark and cold.

_____

7 I got my first job before I <u>was leaving</u> school.

_____

8 Stella was listening to some music when she <u>had heard</u> a noise outside.

_____

3 **a** **Complete the sentences with your own ideas. On a separate piece of paper, write one clue for each sentence.**

1 Before I left home this morning, I had already ...
2 I hadn't ... before I got home yesterday.
3 I was ... at half past nine last night.
4 I was ... at eight o'clock this morning.
5 Last weekend, I ...
6 Yesterday I ...

1 two cups

2 text

3 watch

4 sister

5 play

6 music

3 **b** **SPEAKING** **Read your partner's clues and try to guess their sentences.**

I think before you left home this morning, you had already drunk two cups of coffee.

No! Before I left home this morning, I had already broken two cups!

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