

LANGUAGE IN ACTION

Past perfect

1 Match sentences 1–6 with a–f.

- 1 I felt very tired. f
- 2 I couldn't go to the concert.
- 3 I already knew the story of the film.
- 4 I said sorry for being late.
- 5 I got lost when I went to London.
- 6 I didn't know what time the concert started.

- a I hadn't looked at the programme.
- b I hadn't bought any tickets.
- c I had read the book.
- d I hadn't finished my work on time.
- e I hadn't been there before.
- f I hadn't slept enough.



2 Read the sentences.

Circle the action that happened first, A or B.

- 1 She went to see the fireworks, because her friends had invited her.
A She went to see the fireworks.
B Her friends invited her.
- 2 When I saw the programme, I knew I'd seen the show before.
A I saw the programme.
B I saw the show.
- 3 They'd arranged to meet at the food stall, but Tom couldn't find Katy.
A They arranged to meet.
B Tom couldn't find Katy.
- 4 After he'd phoned his mum, he ordered a pizza.
A He ordered a pizza.
B He phoned his mum.
- 5 Megan felt a bit upset after she'd said goodbye to them.
A Megan said goodbye to them.
B She felt a bit upset.

3 Complete the sentences with the past perfect form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I hadn't bought (not buy) a costume, so I didn't have anything special to wear to the carnival.
- 2 Talia hadn't heard (not hear) of the festival before she went there.
- 3 He got to the concert 20 minutes after it started.
- 4 They went to London last year and they were also there 30 years ago. It had changed (change) a lot.
- 5 We didn't want to see the new *Bond* film because we hadn't seen (not see) the previous one yet.
- 6 When I got home, I realised that I had left (leave) my phone at school.

4 Circle the correct options.

PAULA Did you go / Had you been anywhere interesting during the holidays?

MARCO Well, I ²visited / had visited my grandparents in northern Italy in September. They took me to a town called Marostica. I ³didn't go / hadn't been there before.

PAULA Was it nice?

MARCO Yes, they have a chess festival there.

PAULA Chess festival? That doesn't sound very interesting!

MARCO But it was! My grandparents ⁴told / had told me a lot about it before I ⁵went / had been and I'd thought the same as you. But there was a giant chess set in the middle of the town! And people were dressed in costumes as chess pieces and they ⁶moved / had moved around the board.

PAULA Right, OK. And do they do that every year?

MARCO Every two years. It's to celebrate a famous chess match that two princes ⁷played / had played about 600 years ago. They ⁸fell / had fallen in love with the same woman, but instead of fighting, they decided to play chess!

