

## PAST SIMPLE WITH IRREGULAR VERBS — READING

### NEW YEAR'S EVE — ONE TO REMEMBER OR ONE TO FORGET

**a** When is New Year's Eve? Is it an important celebration in your country?

**b** Read three stories. Who had...?

- a great evening
- an OK evening
- a terrible evening

#### MINA

This was last year, and I went to a hotel with some friends. It had a bar on the top floor, and that's where the party was. We got there at about 11.00. About half an hour before midnight, I realized I didn't have my phone — it was in my car. So I took the lift down to the car park. I found my phone, and then I got back into the lift — I was the only person in it. But then, between the third and fourth floors, the lift stopped completely and I couldn't get out. I pressed the button and asked for help, but a guy said there was an electrical fault and I needed to wait. Then a few minutes later, I could hear people outside celebrating. It was awful — I didn't get out until almost 1.00 in the morning. And on top of it all, my friends didn't realize that I wasn't there!

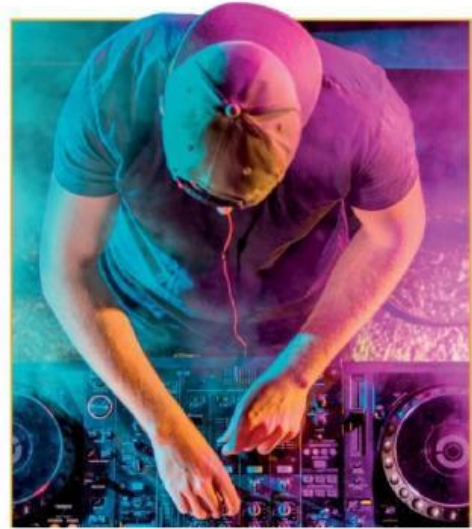


#### JENNY

I had a fantastic New Year's Eve in Iceland in 2013. First, we went to a really expensive restaurant for dinner. It was early, about 6.00, because that's when people have dinner in Iceland. I wore a lovely dress, but after dinner we got a taxi back to the hotel and I put on boots and a warm jacket. Then we went out and watched the amazing fireworks. Suddenly, at about 10.00, everyone went home to watch TV — there's this famous programme they always watch on New Year's Eve! It was really strange — the streets were empty for a bit. But then just before midnight, people came out again and danced and drank till about 5.00 in the morning. It was incredible!

ANDY

i'm a DJ, and this happened to me a few years ago. It was my first time at a New Year's Eve party, and I planned all the music really carefully. I knew exactly which tracks I was going to play. The first part of the night was fine, but just when I thought it was time to start the countdown to midnight, I saw that people were all at the bar, not on the dance floor, and the Tvs were on. On the screens I could see fireworks, and Big Ben! I looked at my watch and I realized it was about two minutes slow! I felt really stupid. I bought a new watch the next day!



c Read the stories again. Select the correct person according to the information in the stories.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ was outside at midnight.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ didn't know exactly when midnight was.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ was alone at midnight.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ was at work at midnight.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ heard the celebrations, but didn't see them.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ was surprised by something people did.

d How do people celebrate New Year's Eve in your country? Do you think most people enjoy it? Why or why not?