

PAST TENSES

Past simple, past continuous, past perfect simple and past perfect continuous.

1. Read these sentences about an overnight train journey from London to Switzerland and put the verbs in brackets into the **past simple** or **the past continuous**.

- 1) By the time the train _____ (**leave**), it _____ (**get**) dark.

- 2) We _____ (**still look**) for our seats when the train _____ (**stop**) for the first time.

- 3) We _____ (**meet**) a family from Scotland, who _____ (**go**) to a wedding in France.

4) In the evening, we _____ (sit) in the buffet, we _____ (not eat) much but we _____ (talk) to some interesting people.

5) When I _____ (wake up) in the morning, we _____ (travel) through the vineyards.

6) As soon as we _____ (cross) the border, I _____ (begin) to feel excited.

7) When we _____ (reach) the mountains, we _____ (know) our journey was almost over.

8) The train _____ (arrive) late and our friends _____ (not wait) for us so we _____ (take) a taxi to their flat.

2. For each gap, choose a verb from the box and put it into the **past perfect** or the **past perfect continuous**.

Feel	forget	own	stand up
	try	wait	

- 1) The crowd _____ for over an hour for the match to begin.
- 2) We _____ to find the key for five minutes when my dad found it in his pocket.
- 3) When he retired. My grandfather _____ his business for more than 40 years.
- 4) David _____ unwell for a few days so he went to the doctor's.
- 5) Katrina was really angry with me because I _____ to tell her the change of plan.
- 6) I was quite tired when I got home as I _____ watching our school football team for over an hour.

3. For each gap, put the verb in brackets into the **past simple**, **past continuous**, **past perfect simple** or **the past perfect continuous**.

Last week I (1) _____ (**GO**) to the mountains

with my cousins. None of us (2) _____

(**EVER SKI**) before so we (3) _____

(**LOOK**) forward to it for months.

While we (4) _____ (**DRIVE**) to the

airport, it (5) _____ (**START**) to snow and

we were really excited. But when we (6) _____

(**GET**) off the plane in the mountains, there (7) _____

(**NOT BE**) any snow at all.

Everyone there (8) _____ (**SAY**) it was

too warm for snow. We (9) _____ (**GO**) to

bed feeling sad that we wouldn't be able to ski. But when

we (10) _____ (**GET**) up the next

morning and (11) _____ (**LOOK**) out of the

window we realized that it (12) _____

(**SNOW**) all night and we would be able to ski after all.