

C Grammar exercises

1 Complete the text with the past simple form of these verbs.

be begin come drink eat explain feed find get give go have know learn
meet read seem speak spread write

The mystery of Kaspar Hauser

The mystery of Kaspar Hauser (1) began in Nuremberg, Germany, about 200 years ago. One morning, the people of the town (2) saw a young man standing alone in the square. He was holding a piece of paper in his hand. The paper (3) said only that he (4) was the son of a soldier. Kaspar (5) could how to say a few words and when given a paper and pencil he (6) wrote his name, but he (7) was completely ignorant about everyday life. At first he (8) ate only bread and (9) drank only water, but he gradually (10) learned used to ordinary meals. He also (11) learned to talk properly.

The real truth about his birth remains a mystery, but it is probable that his father kept him in one small room for the whole of his early life. He (12) fed him on bread and (13) gave him water to drink. Kaspar never (14) came out, he never (15) spoke to anyone or (16) met other children. In spite of this extraordinary childhood, Kaspar was not stupid. He (17) read books and (18) joined discussions with teachers and philosophers. News about Kaspar (19) spread through Europe and visitors (20) came from abroad to meet him.



2 Fill in the gaps with the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs.

- 1 My parents got (get) to know each other when they were studying (study) at university.
- 2 Doctor Fisher travelled (travel) widely as a young man and always kept (always keep) a diary.
- 3 I saw (see) my brother and his friend when I was waiting (wait) for the bus, but they didn't see (not see) me.
- 4 Lily filled (fill) in the application form and gave (give) it to the receptionist.
- 5 While I was working (work) in Rome, I met (meet) a girl who looked (look) just like your sister.
- 6 Simon bought (buy) a new laptop because his old one always crashed (always crash).
- 7 I missed (miss) your text because my phone was charged (charge) in another room.
- 8 Anna's feeling depressed because she hoped (hope) for a pay rise last week, but she didn't get (not get) one.