

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) _____ a young man standing alone in the square. He was holding a piece of paper in his hand. The paper (3) _____ only that he (4) _____ the son of a soldier. Kaspar (5) _____ how to say a few words and when given a paper and pencil he (6) _____ his name, but he (7) _____ completely ignorant about everyday life. At first he (8) _____ only bread and (9) _____ only water, but he gradually (10) _____ used to ordinary meals. He also (11) _____ 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) _____ him on bread and (13) _____ him water to drink. Kaspar never (14) _____ out, he never (15) _____ to anyone or (16) _____ other children. In spite of this extraordinary childhood, Kaspar was not stupid. He (17) _____ books and (18) _____ discussions with teachers and philosophers. News about Kaspar (19) _____ through Europe and visitors (20) _____ from abroad to meet him.

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

- My parents got (get) to know each other when they were studying (study) at university.
- Doctor Fisher _____ (travel) widely as a young man and _____ (always keep) a diary.
- I _____ (see) my brother and his friend when I _____ (wait) for the bus, but they _____ (not see) me.
- Lily _____ (fill) in the application form and _____ (give) it to the receptionist.
- While I _____ (work) in Rome, I _____ (meet) a girl who _____ (look) just like your sister.
- Simon _____ (buy) a new laptop because his old one _____ (always crash).
- I _____ (miss) your text because my phone _____ (charge) in another room.
- Anna's feeling depressed because she _____ (hope) for a pay rise last week, but she _____ (not get) one.