

# Perseverance – the Mars rover – part 1

## Exercise instructions:

Read the text and identify the verb tenses and their functions: write the number (1 to 5) of the examples from the text in the appropriate green boxes.



Before Perseverance **landed** (1) on Mars on 18 February 2021, the NASA **had sent** (2) another four rovers. As of May 2021, there **have been** (3) six successful robotically operated Mars rovers.

The American NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory **managed** (1) the first five: Sojourner (1997), Opportunity (2004), Spirit (2004), Curiosity (2012), and Perseverance (2021). The sixth is Zhurong (2021), which the China National Space Administration **sent** (1) to Mars, where it **arrived** (1) on 10 February 2021.

At the NASA they think it is possible that bacteria **were living** (4) on Mars a long time ago. Perseverance **has been trying** (5) to find evidence since it **arrived** (1) on Mars. The chemicals it **has been looking for** (5) are perchlorates, from which certain bacteria can obtain energy.

|  |                                                          |
|--|----------------------------------------------------------|
|  | Past continuous:<br>WAS / WERE + V-ing                   |
|  | Past simple:<br>V-ed                                     |
|  | Present perfect:<br>HAVE / HAS + V-en                    |
|  | Present perfect continuous:<br>HAVE / HAS + BEEN + V-ing |
|  | Past perfect:<br>HAD + V-en                              |

|  |                                                                               |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | Finished action or event; the time is not important.                          |
|  | Past action previous to another past action.                                  |
|  | Action in progress in the past.                                               |
|  | Action in a finished period of time which is mentioned in the context.        |
|  | Unfinished action, still in progress in the present since a time in the past. |