# Grammar in Use
## Past Tenses

**1. Mark the tenses with PS (past simple), PC (past continuous), PPS (past perfect simple), PPC (past perfect continuous). Then match them to the correct descriptions.**

| 1 | a | PS | Elizabeth II **became** the Queen of the United Kingdom in 1953. |
|---|---|----|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 |   |    | She **was steering** the boat while he **was playing** the guitar. |
| 3 |   |    | They **had been skating** together for five years before they entered the competition. |
| 4 |   |    | He **was driving** home when his car broke down. |
| 5 |   |    | They **had** already **sat** down for dinner by 7 o'clock. |
| 6 |   |    | Frank Sinatra, one of the best-selling music artists of all time, **won** eleven Grammy Awards. |
| 7 |   |    | First, he **read** the message. Then, he **called** his boss. |
| 8 |   |    | At 3 o'clock yesterday they **were sitting** at an outdoor café. |
| 9 |   |    | She **had been working** hard that day, so she was tired. |

a event which happened at a stated past time
b past action in progress interrupted by another past action
c action which happened at a definite past time
d past actions which happened one after the other
e two simultaneous past actions
f emphasis on the duration of an action which started and finished in the past before another past action
g past action which occurred before a sated time in the past
h past action of certain duration which had visible results in the past
i action in progress at a stated time in the past

**2. Choose the correct form of the verb.**

▪ I                          to work when I heard the news on the radio.

▪ We                          around town when we bumped into Mary.

▪ They were hiking up the hill when the volcano                          .

▪ What                          at 6 o'clock? I couldn't get in touch with you.

▪ Jake had only been talking for a minute                          the microphone went dead.

▪ Harry                          asleep while he was watching TV.

**3. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct present tense.**

- We _____ (drive) along when this man _____ (jump) out in front of the car.
- Tom _____ (have) a coffee while he _____ (read) a magazine.
- It _____ (snow) for hours and no planes _____ (be) able to take off.
- Ian _____ (ask) Tina out yesterday but she _____ (already/make) plans.
- Two days ago Mary _____ (return) the book I _____ (lend) her.