ID

Grammar

Past tenses

I can talk about events that took place in the past.

1 Complete the sentences with the past simple or past continuous form of the verb in brackets.

1 I _____ (have) a shower when the postman _____ (arrive).
2 Sandra _____ (drop) her bag while she _____ (run) for the bus.
3 He _____ (read) the letter when he suddenly _____ (start) to laugh.
4 The sun _____ (shine), so we _____ (decide) to have a barbecue.
5 She _____ (hurt) her finger while she _____ (cut) some bread.
6 Pat _____ (live) in Greece when he _____ (meet) Hannah.

2 Complete the sentences with the past simple or past perfect form of the verbs below.

arrive be complete decide finish get go lose not know pass put start take tell

1 After we _____ eating, we _____ to go to the shops.
2 By the time they _____ at the theatre, the play _____.
3 He only realised he _____ his keys when he _____ to his front door.
4 Jerry _____ delighted because he _____ all his exams.
5 When everyone _____ a chocolate, she _____ the box away.
6 They _____ out for a pizza after they _____ the project.
7 I _____ about the accident because no one _____ me about it.

3 Choose the correct verbs to complete the sentences.

1 My father **worked / has worked** as a policeman since he **left / has left** school.
2 Linda **called / has called** me this morning. She **has decided / decided** to come out with us later.
3 Tom **never drove / has never driven** a car because he's not old enough.
4 I **bought / have bought** a new shirt at the weekend, but I **didn't wear / haven't worn** it yet.
5 Pablo loves Sam Smith's new album, but I **haven't heard / didn't hear** it.
6 I **spilled / have spilled** water on my phone earlier; I think **I broke / I've broken** it.

4 Complete the dialogue with the present perfect simple or continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

Eve Hi, Will. [1] _____ (you finish) reading that magazine yet?
Will Not quite. I [2] _____ (read) this article about Paris. It's really interesting.
Eve [3] _____ (you visit) France, then?
Will Lots of times – we [4] _____ (go) there on holiday for years. Recently, my aunt and uncle [5] _____ (buy) a house there so we'll go even more often.
Eve Lucky you. I [6] _____ (never visit) another country. Anyway, I [7] _____ (make) a cake if you'd like a piece?
Will That's really kind, but no thanks. I [8] _____ (eat) biscuits all morning and I'm full!

5 Choose the correct verbs (a–c) to complete the text.



Last night, I [1]__ to music when my phone [2]__ ringing. It was my sister. She [3]__ her bag and [4]__ enough money to get a cab home. She [5]__ to walk, but when it [6]__ to rain, she [7]__ to go to a café. She [8]__ there and she wanted me to ask if Mum or Dad would drive over and pick her up!

1	**a** listened	**b** was listening	**c** had listened
2	**a** started	**b** had started	**c** was starting
3	**a** was losing	**b** lost	**c** had lost
4	**a** didn't have	**b** hadn't had	**c** wasn't having
5	**a** was starting	**b** started	**c** had started
6	**a** began	**b** had begun	**c** was beginning
7	**a** decided	**b** was deciding	**c** had decided
8	**a** had waited	**b** was waiting	**c** waited

6 Complete the sentences with the verbs in brackets. Use the correct past tense.

1 'Why is your face so red?' 'I _____ (sit) in the sun all morning.'
2 I _____ (try) to do this crossword all morning and I still can't finish it.
3 They were driving to the sea when the car _____ (run out) of petrol.
4 After they'd woken up, they _____ (cook) a big breakfast.
5 Rosa has eaten octopus, but she _____ (not try) snails before!
6 I _____ (guess) what was inside the parcel before I opened it.

LIVEWORKSHEETS