

Alek Wek

Past and present

Alek Wek is one of the world's most popular models. She ¹*has appeared / appeared* in catwalk shows, high profile advertising campaigns and on the cover of *Vogue* magazine. Her life, however, ²*hasn't been / hadn't been* easy.

Alek ³*has been born / was born* into a poor family in Sudan in 1977, the seventh of nine children. In 1983, civil war ⁴*broke out / had broken out*. Alek ⁵*was playing / used to play* out in the streets, but it ⁶*has got / got* too dangerous to go out. In the end, Alek's family ⁷*have decided / decided* to leave their town and walk south. Eventually, the family ended up in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan. Unfortunately, in Khartoum, Alek's father died. Many years before, he ⁸*had / had had* an operation on his hip, and during their long walks it ⁹*was getting / got* badly infected.

