

UNIT 2: AT SCHOOL

Grammar practice

C1 Read this postcard and put the verbs in brackets into the past simple.

Hi Niki. We 1 made (make) a trip to Brighton last week. We 2 (visit) the Pavilion, and 3 (see) the nineteenth century kitchen. I'm glad I 4 (not work) there in those days. The dining-room 5 (be) my favourite room. We 6 (have) coffee in the restaurant, then we 7 (go) for a walk by the sea and 8 (eat) some fish and chips for lunch. We 9 (spend) the afternoon shopping. We 10 (find) some funny little shops where we 11 (buy) some unusual clothes. 12 (you/go) anywhere interesting in the holidays?
Love, Jenny.



C2 Tanya and her brother Tony gave a party together. Use the information below and write sentences with the past continuous to show how they prepared for the party.

	Tanya	Tony
10 am	make a shopping list	email their friends
1 pm	buy the drinks	choose the music
3 pm	tidy the house	prepare the food
6 pm	blow up the balloons	decorate the rooms
7 pm	iron her dress	have a shower

- At ten o'clock Tanya was making a shopping list and Tony was emailing their friends.
- At one o'clock
- At three o'clock
- At six o'clock
- At seven o'clock

C3 Complete each sentence with a verb from Box A in the past continuous and a verb from Box B in the past simple.

A climb cook ~~dance~~ stay
study tidy work

B burn discover meet fall
paint ~~play~~ see

- I was dancing with my boyfriend when the disc jockey played our favourite song.
- My parents in a restaurant when they

- 3 I grammar when I asleep.
- 4 The chef spaghetti when he his hand.
- 5 The artist in the South of France when she her most famous picture.
- 6 The scientist his laboratory when he the new drug.
- 7 We the wall when the gardener us.

C4 Read this email and underline the best tense for each verb.

Hi Bea

A funny thing 1 happened/was happening to me and my flatmates on Saturday.

On Friday night we 2 went/were going to the college party. There were some new students there and we 3 met/were meeting someone called Lucas. We 4 invited/were inviting him to Sunday lunch. It was a great party so we 5 didn't go/weren't going home until three o'clock.

Of course, we 6 didn't get/weren't getting up early on Saturday morning. At half past twelve I 7 watched/was watching TV in my pyjamas, Marie 8 had/was having a shower and Wendy 9 read/was reading a magazine. Suddenly someone 10 rang/was ringing the doorbell. I 11 looked/was looking out of the window to see who was there. Lucas 12 stood/was standing on the step. I 13 went/was going to the door but I 14 didn't open/wasn't opening it. I said 'Hello?' and he said 'Hello, I've come for lunch.' Oh no! He'd got the wrong day!!

We 15 got/were getting dressed in three minutes! Luckily we 16 had/were having enough food, and he seemed to enjoy it. How was your weekend? Love Annette

C5 Read this newspaper article and put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense, past simple or past continuous.

An honest customer

Yesterday Jon Atkins 1 went (go) into Harpers' Art Gallery at the end of the afternoon. He 2 (want) to buy a present for his mother. It 3 (be) nearly closing time and owner Michael Harper 4 (count) the money. Quickly Jon 5 (choose) a small picture and Mr Harper 6 (wrap) it for him. While 7 he (wait) for his bus, Jon 8 (decide) to look at the picture again. In the parcel he 9 (find) £500 in cash as well as the picture. He

10 (run) back to the shop. It was closed so Jon 11 (look) through the window. Michael Harper 12 (search) under the counter, and his assistants 13 (look) in all the cupboards and drawers. 'I 14 (knock) on the window and 15 (wave) the money at them' said Jon. 'I was so happy,' said Mr Harper. 'It's wonderful to know that there are honest people like Jon.'

C3 Fill in the gaps in this conversation with the correct form of *used to* and a verb from the box.

be not go have not have live know travel walk

Mina: There's Dahlia in her dad's sports car. Where do they get their money from?

Sara: Don't you know? Her family won the lottery.

Mina: Wow!

Sara: I knew her before that, though. Her family 1 used to live in our road. She
2 to school like all the other children in those days.

Mina: 3 (you) them very well?

Sara: Oh, yes. They 4 friendly people. And her father grew all their
vegetables because they 5 much money.

Mina: They go on holiday a lot now. 6 (they) abroad then?

Sara: No, they 7 away at all.

Mina: They're very lucky now.

Sara: Mmm, but they 8 more friends.

C4 Complete each sentence to show what was different in the past. Use the word in brackets and any others you need with *used to/didn't use to + verb*.

- 1 Patrick didn't use to take many photos (photos) but he loves using his new camera.
- 2 You (lazy) but you're working very hard this term.
- 3 I (slim) but I've lost weight.
- 4 Bobby (a bike) but he drives a car now.
- 5 Bertie (my brother) but they've become friends recently.
- 6 Nora (the cinema) very often but she sees lots of films now.
- 7 My sister (shy) but she enjoys parties now.
- 8 We (sport) but we often play tennis these days.
- 9 Joanna (a vegetarian) but she had a sausage for breakfast.
- 10 They (the city centre) but their new house is in the country.

C5 Write true sentences about when you were very young using *used to/didn't use to + verb*.

- 1 I didn't use to do my homework on a computer.
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5