Time

1 Use the words and phrases in the boxes to complete the sentences. Pay particular attention to the words that come before or after the words and phrases.

Part 1: One action or situation occurring before another action or situation

by the time	earlier	formerly	precede	previously	prior to

1. .....the advent of the Industrial Revolution, pollution was virtually unheard of.
2. .....the army had restored order, the city had been almost completely devastated.
3. .....known as Bombay, Mumbai is India's most vibrant and exciting city.
4. A sudden drop in temperature will usually .....a blizzard.
5. It was my first trip on an aeroplane. .....I'd always gone by train.
6. The Prime Minister made a speech praising charity organisations working in Mozambique. .....that day he had promised massive economic aid to stricken areas.

Part 2: One action or situation occurring at the same time as another action or situation

at that very moment	during	in the meantime	while

1. .....the minister was making his speech, thousands of demonstrators took to the streets.
2. ..... the speech they jeered and shouted slogans.
3. The minister continued speaking. ..... the police were ordered onto the streets.
4. He finished the speech with a word of praise for the police. ..... people began throwing bottles and bricks, and the riot began.

Part 3: One action or situation occurring after another action or situation

afterwards	as soon as	following

1. ..... the earthquake, emergency organisations around the world swung into action.
2. ..... the stock market collapsed, there was panic buying on an unprecedented scale.
3. The Klondike gold rush lasted from 1896 to 1910. ....., the area became practically deserted overnight.

2 Look at these words and phrases and decide if we usually use them to talk about (1) the past, (2) the past leading to the present, (3) the present or (4) the future. Try to write a sentence for each one.

a few decades ago	as things stand	at the turn of the century	at that point / moment in history
back in the 1990s	between 2003 and 2005	by the end of this year	ever since
for the foreseeable future	for the next few weeks	for the past few months	from 2006 to 2011
from now on	in another five years' time	in medieval times	in my childhood / youth
in those days	last century	lately	nowadays
one day	over the coming weeks and months	over the past six weeks	sooner or later
these days			

LIVEWORKSHEETS