

NARRATIVE TENSES:

Choose the correct option from the words in italics to complete the following texts.

Text 1

A few years ago, I spent a holiday in Indonesia, and while I was there I ¹ *took / was taking* a boat trip to a remote island. I have always been interested in birds and ² *was being told / had been told* that there was some great bird-watching on the islands. As soon as we reached our destination, everyone ³ *went / had gone* in different directions to explore. I was so keen to do the same that I ⁴ *hadn't listened / wasn't listening* when the guide told us what time to return to the boat. I ⁵ *set off / had set off* towards a beach, I could see in the distance, where I ⁶ *had hoped / hoped* to find some interesting birds. After spending some time looking at some fabulous wildlife through my binoculars, and after I ⁷ *had taken / was taking* several photographs, I suddenly ⁸ *had realized / realized* that I had no idea what the time was, or when we were meant to be back at the boat. I quickly gathered my things and ⁹ *raced / was racing* back when I saw the boat disappearing into the distance. Luckily, one of the other passengers ¹⁰ *was noticing / had noticed* that I was missing and the boat soon turned around to pick me up. Much as I loved the island, I didn't really want to spend the night there alone!

Text 2

Steve and Julia didn't have the honeymoon they ¹ *were always dreaming / had always dreamt* of. When they arrived at the airport, their flight ² *took / had taken off*. They had to catch another flight later on and ³ *missed / were missing* most of the first day of their honeymoon.

There was another problem, when they arrived at their hotel. While they ⁴ *were waiting / waited* for a room, one of their bags ⁵ *had disappeared / disappeared*. Fortunately, it was returned soon after - one of the other guests ⁶ *was taking / had taken* it by mistake.

They decided to enjoy the rest of the day and visit the city centre. They ⁷ *were going / had already gone* back to the hotel when it started to rain heavily. The taxi driver said he ⁸ *hadn't seen / didn't see* such bad weather in a long time. It ⁹ *had rained / had been raining* most of the week; but fortunately, they ¹⁰ *had already gone / went* back home when a hurricane hit the island. While they ¹¹ *were watching / had watched* the news at home, they ¹² *felt / had felt* really lucky after all.