

55 Irregular verbs

A Bad things happen ...

The burglar **set off** the burglar **alarm**, which woke everyone up, but he **ran away** before we saw him.

I **set** my alarm clock last night, but I still **overslept**. I **sprang out of** bed and tripped over my shoes.

Last week it was so cold that our pipes **froze** in the bathroom, and then they **burst**. It made a terrible mess, but fortunately my husband was at home and **dealt with** it.

We were on the lake when our little boat **sank**. We managed to swim to the shore and then **lay** there exhausted, not sure what to do. As it **grew** darker, we started to feel cold and miserable.

GLOSSARY

set sth off <i>pt/pp set</i> alarm	do sth that starts a reaction a machine that warns you of a danger by ringing a loud bell: a fire/burglar alarm
run away <i>pt ran pp run</i> set <i>pt/pp set</i>	escape from somewhere prepare or arrange sth for a particular purpose
oversleep <i>pt/pp overslept</i> spring <i>pt sprang pp sprung</i>	sleep longer than you should have done jump or move quickly: spring out of bed / to your feet
freeze <i>pt froze pp frozen</i> burst <i>pt burst pp burst</i>	become hard and often change into ice break open suddenly and violently, usually because there is too much pressure inside
deal with sth/sb <i>pt/pp dealt</i> sink <i>pt sank pp sunk</i>	take action in a situation in order to solve a problem go down, or make sth go down under the surface of a liquid or soft substance
lie <i>pt lay pp lain</i> grow <i>pt grew pt grown</i>	be in a flat or horizontal position, not standing or sitting become: grow dark/old/bored

1 Circle the past participles.

froze ran sprung grew run overslept burst dealt sank set spring frozen lay grown

2 Complete the dialogues.

- What time did you get up? ~ I set the alarm for 7.00 but didn't get up until 7.30.
- What was the cause of the accident? ~ A tyre _____, and the car went out of control.
- Why were you late for work? ~ Because I _____.
- The water in the dog's bowl has _____! ~ That's not surprising: the temperature fell below zero last night.
- What happened to the boat? ~ It _____ because there was a hole in the bottom of it.
- Has Rina solved the problem with the keys? ~ Yes, she's _____ it.
- Did you feel tired when you woke up? ~ No, I _____ bed.
- Where has Freddie gone? ~ He was frightened of the horse and _____.
- Was it dark when you drove here this morning? ~ Yes, but it _____ light as I got nearer.
- Were you tired after the journey? ~ Yes, very. I _____ on my bed for an hour and then felt much better.
- Did you hear the fire _____? ~ No, I wasn't at home at the time. Is everything OK?

3 Complete the questions with a suitable verb.

Have you ever:

- overslept before an important exam or meeting? _____
- _____ out of bed and injured yourself? _____
- _____ a burglar alarm or a fire alarm? _____
- had to _____ with a difficult boss, colleague or student? _____
- _____ a child's balloon? _____
- _____ an alarm clock for the wrong time? _____

4 ABOUT YOU Write answers to the questions in Exercise 3, or ask another student.



TEST YOURSELF

B Action verbs



1 He **hung** up his coat.



2 She **hid** behind the sofa.



3 He **threw** the ball.



4 She **shook** the bottle.



5 He **bent** the metal.



6 She **spilt** her drink.



7 I **lit** a fire.



8 Hannah **led** us up the hill.



9 The referee **blew** his whistle.



10 She **tore** the picture into pieces.



11 He **shone** a torch into my eye.



12 She **laid** the baby on the bed.

5 Can you complete the past participles? Use the irregular verbs list on pages 202–204 if necessary.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ▶ hang / hung / <u>hung</u> | 4 blow / blew / _____ | 8 light / lit / _____ |
| 1 hide / hid / _____ | 5 spill / spilt / _____ | 9 tear / tore / _____ |
| 2 throw / threw / _____ | 6 shine / shone / _____ | 10 lay / laid / _____ |
| 3 shake / shook / _____ | 7 bend / bent / _____ | |

6 Cross out the wrong answer.

- ▶ He laid the **newspaper** / **books** / **juice** on the table.
- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 I threw the ball / book / horse . | 5 She spilt some juice / boxes / white coffee on the floor. |
| 2 He hid behind the cup / bed / wardrobe . | 6 I shone a light / torch / fire on the documents. |
| 3 I bent the spoon / pencil / key . | 7 She shook the carton of milk / bottle / wall . |
| 4 I lit the fire / cigarette / water . | 8 He hung up his scarf / gloves / jacket . |

7 Complete the sentences with a suitable verb in the correct form.

- ▶ Don't shake that bottle of fizzy water before you open it!
- The receptionist _____ the guests into the restaurant.
 - Joanna has _____ some tea on her dress, and it's left a mark.
 - Someone _____ a candle so that we could see a bit more clearly.
 - I tried turning the key in the lock. It didn't work and I think I've _____ the key.
 - He saw a soldier coming so he _____ behind a wall.
 - The policemen stopped the man in the street and _____ a torch into his bag.
 - I gave him the letter; he read it and then _____ it into little pieces.
 - I went in quietly, took off my coat and _____ it.
 - The referee has _____ his whistle, so it's the end of the game.
 - I _____ the map on the ground so we could see exactly where we were going.

8 Make sure you know the meaning and irregular forms of the following verbs. Use the **APP** to help you and the irregular verb list on pages 202–204.

rise choose spread keep break bring feed



TEST YOURSELF