

# 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

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

### 1 Circle the past participles.

froze **sprung** grew run overslept burst dealt sank sets **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.

1 What was the cause of the accident? ~ A tyre **burst**, and the car went out of control.

2 Why were you late for work? ~ Because I **overslept**.

3 The water in the dog's bowl has **frozen**! ~ That's not surprising: the temperature fell below zero last night.

4 What happened to the boat? ~ It **sank** because there was a hole in the bottom of it.

5 Has Rina solved the problem with the keys? ~ Yes, she's **dealt with** it.

6 Did you feel tired when you woke up? ~ No, I **lay** in bed.

7 Where has Freddie gone? ~ He was frightened of the horse and **ran away**.

8 Was it dark when you drove here this morning? ~ Yes, but it **grew** lighter as I got nearer.

9 Were you tired after the journey? ~ Yes, very. I **lay** on my bed for an hour and then felt much better.

10 Did you hear the fire **alarm**? ~ 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?

### ABOUT YOU

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



### TEST YOURSELF

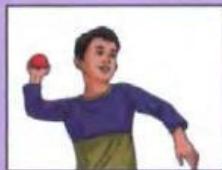
## B Action verbs



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

### 6 Cross out the wrong answer.

► He **laid** the *newspaper / books / juice* on the table.

1 I **threw** the *ball / book / horse*.

2 He **hid** behind the *cup / bed / wardrobe*.

3 I **bent** the *spoon / pencil / key*.

4 I **lit** the *fire / cigarette / water*.

5 She **spilt** some *juice / boxes / white coffee* on the floor.

6 I **shone** a *light / torch / fire* on the documents.

7 She **shook** the *carton of milk / bottle / wall*.

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!

1 The receptionist ..... the guests into the restaurant.

2 Joanna has ..... some tea on her dress, and it's left a mark.

3 Someone ..... a candle so that we could see a bit more clearly.

4 I tried turning the key in the lock. It didn't work and I think I've ..... the key.

5 He saw a soldier coming so he ..... behind a wall.

6 The policemen stopped the man in the street and ..... a torch into his bag.

7 I gave him the letter; he read it and then ..... it into little pieces.

8 I went in quietly, took off my coat and ..... it .....

9 The referee has ..... his whistle, so it's the end of the game.

10 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 to help you and the irregular verb list on pages 202–204.

rise choose spread keep break bring feed



TEST YOURSELF