

## 4A GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY

## Narrative tenses; Past Perfect Simple and Continuous

- 1 ★★ Put the sentences in order to make a story. Then match the sentences with their meanings a-f.

- ☐ I stopped my car, got out and stood in the road to see what it was.  
☒ At midnight last night, I was driving back to my home in the country.  
☐ I felt tired because I had been driving all day.  
☐ By the time I got to the field, the object had disappeared.  
☐ Suddenly, I saw an object in the sky.  
☐ While I was watching the object, it fell into a field.

|                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Past Simple                                                                                          |
| a <input type="checkbox"/> an action that started and finished in the past                           |
| b <input type="checkbox"/> actions which follow each other in a story                                |
| Past Continuous                                                                                      |
| c <input type="checkbox"/> an action in progress at a specific point in the past                     |
| d <input type="checkbox"/> an interrupted past action                                                |
| Past Perfect Simple                                                                                  |
| e <input type="checkbox"/> an action which took place before another past action                     |
| Past Perfect Continuous                                                                              |
| f <input type="checkbox"/> a situation or an action which continued up to a certain time in the past |

- 2 ★★ Read the situations and use the prompts to write sentences in the Past Perfect Continuous.

- 1 Anne got into trouble at school for using her phone.  
She / text / during lessons  
She'd been texting during lessons.
- 2 Gavin had ink all round his mouth.  
He / chew / his pen / during the exam  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 The central square was underwater.  
It / rain / for five days  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 The gang was convicted of fraud.  
They / print / fake money  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 The president was assassinated while giving a speech.  
He / speak / at a political protest meeting  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 3 ★★ Complete the text with the forms from the box.

had been investigating   ~~had been working~~   had fallen  
 had just finished   had never seen  
 had never witnessed   had they seen

Professor Lindeman was exhausted. He <sup>1</sup>had been working late all week long on his paper regarding the possibilities of alien life existing in our universe. He <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ for the night when he noticed a strange light outside the window. He <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ anything like it. For many years, he <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ UFO sightings and other bizarre events, but he <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ one himself. Was this it? He rose and moved towards the window. <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ his research and come to abduct him? As he reached the window, he felt something touch his shoulder. He jumped and suddenly he was back in his chair. His wife was shaking his shoulder. He <sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ asleep at his desk again.

- 4 ★★ Complete the sentences with the correct Past Perfect Simple or Past Perfect Continuous forms of the verbs in bold.

## 1 PLAY

- a Clara's music player had been playing for nineteen hours when the battery ran out.  
 b Clara's music player \_\_\_\_\_ nearly two hundred songs when the battery ran out.

## 2 ELIMINATE

- a Inspector Fielding \_\_\_\_\_ all the other suspects when he arrested Stokes.  
 b Inspector Fielding \_\_\_\_\_ suspects at an impressive rate.

## 3 EXPOSE

- a The journalist \_\_\_\_\_ four corrupt MPs in the previous three months.  
 b The journalist \_\_\_\_\_ corrupt MPs for his entire twenty-year career.

## 4 EAT

- a The prince \_\_\_\_\_ breakfast when he collapsed.  
 b The prince \_\_\_\_\_ something poisonous during breakfast.

## 5 DROP

- a Viola \_\_\_\_\_ several hints regarding what she wanted for her birthday.  
 b Viola \_\_\_\_\_ hints all week regarding what she wanted for her birthday.