

1 Complete the texts with the correct past form of the words in brackets. Use the past simple, past continuous, *used to*, *would* or *keep + -ing*. Use each form at least once. Sometimes more than one form is possible.

Small change, big impact

a I ¹ _____ (drive) my flatmate crazy because I ² _____ (lose) my keys around the house so often. I ³ _____ (put) them down in a special spot and then ⁴ _____ (forget) where that special spot was. I ⁵ _____ (spend) ages looking for them. Finally, my flatmate ⁶ _____ (put up) a key holder by our front door and ⁷ _____ (insist) that I hung my keys there. It ⁸ _____ (be) simple, but life-changing. I haven't lost my keys since!



b I ⁹ _____ (look) for ways to simplify my life when I ¹⁰ _____ (read) that many successful people ¹¹ _____ (wear) the same thing every day, like a uniform. Apparently, these people ¹² _____ (save) a lot of time and mental energy by doing this. I ¹³ _____ (not have) a lot of money to spend on new clothes, so I ¹⁴ _____ (build) my uniform over time. I ¹⁵ _____ (decide) to buy clothes that were navy, white or brown. I ¹⁶ _____ (think) it might be boring, but it has definitely made my life easier.

c I ¹⁷ _____ (find) writing in English difficult. I ¹⁸ _____ (can) think of ideas, but I ¹⁹ _____ (make) a lot of mistakes. I ²⁰ _____ (complain) in class one day when my teacher ²¹ _____ (suggest) that I read my work aloud to check it. I ²² _____ (be) surprised to find that it actually ²³ _____ (help). I ²⁴ _____ (do) it and my writing has become a lot more accurate.

2 Read the texts and answer the questions.

- What life changes have the people made and why?
- Have you ever tried anything similar?

3 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- Think of a change you've made in your life (it could be big or small). What was it?
- Did it have a big impact?