

Narrative Tenses

Put the verbs in the box in the correct gap.

paint	had painted	had been painting	was painting	was painted	had been painted
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1. Her clothes were covered in paint: she _____ the ceiling.
2. When I opened the door, my husband _____ the kitchen. I decided to grab a paintbrush and lend him a hand.
3. I intended to help my sister, but by the time I got there, she _____ the whole flat by herself.
4. The room looked completely different after the walls _____.
5. She _____ the mural and then showed it to her friends.
6. This picture _____ by a local artist a few decades ago.



Match

- A. past continuous
- B. past simple
- C. past perfect simple
- D. past perfect continuous
- E. past simple passive
- F. past perfect simple passive

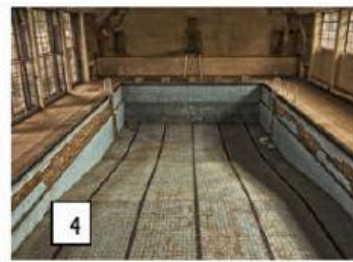
- a single completed action in the past
- an action which was completed before a time in the past
- an action which was in progress in the past (interrupted by a single event)
- an ongoing action which continued up to/stopped before a time in the past

Choose the correct option

1. When I came back home, she _____ on the floor. There was an empty bottle of wine beside her. It was clear that she _____.
2. He wanted to discuss the matter in person, but by the time he got to the office, his boss _____ home.
3. They _____ in that hotel several times before, but the rooms _____ and they could hardly recognise the place.
4. After the beds _____, the carpets _____. Then a friendly member of the staff _____ us to our suite.

Put the verb "swim" in the correct form

1. I could tell she _____ because her hair was wet and she was sitting by the pool.
2. It was a hot day and the children _____. Not wanting to disturb them, I just waved at them.
3. She was tired because she _____ for an hour. She _____ two miles already but she was still a long way from the shore.
4. My friends and I _____ in that pool whenever we had a chance. But when I revisited it last summer, it looked abandoned, as if nobody _____ in it for years.



Used to and Would

Match

used to

would

past simple

past habits

past habits and past states

past habits, past states and single completed actions in the past



Choose the correct option (sometimes more than one answer is possible)

1. When we were kids, my sister and I used to / would cartwheel non-stop in the square opposite our house.
2. In my early teens I used to / would be quiet and introverted and used to write / would write / wrote my most private thoughts and feelings in a journal I used to keep / kept.
3. There didn't used to be / didn't use to be any crime in this neighbourhood, but things have changed, so be careful.

Complete the diagram

used to

past simple

past habits

past states

single past actions

