

Complete the sentences with an appropriate form of the verb given. Use the past simple, present perfect, past perfect and past perfect continuous tenses. Use each tense at least once in each group of four sentences, but give alternatives where possible.

1 play

- a We have played 35 matches so far this season, so we're all feeling pretty tired.
- b After the match, she admitted that she badly.
- c you rugby or football at the school you went to?
- d We really well all year, so it came as a big surprise when we were beaten by Wales last December.

2 make

- a We the right decision in emigrating to Canada in the mid-1990s.
- b Henson never thought about retirement. In fact, he a documentary film about the indigenous people of Chile when he died.
- c A: When did you realise that you a mistake in joining the army?
B: When I was posted to Afghanistan.
- d Korean scientists believe that they a breakthrough in the fight against cancer by developing a technique for containing the disease. They reported their findings at the AAL conference in New York this week.

3 eat

- a The couple described how they in the dining room when the explosion destroyed the hotel.
- b My mother was a vegetarian, and as children we rarely meat.
- c I prawns a few times before last week without any ill effects, but the ones I had at the restaurant made me very sick indeed.
- d A: Would you like some of these cherries?
B: Yes, please. I any fresh fruit for days.

4 run

- a Over the last year I workshops on creative writing in twelve colleges and universities.
- b She was breathing hard as if she
- c She only two marathons before breaking the world record in the Pan-African Games.
- d I was late for work so I most of the way.

3. Complete the sentences using the Past Continuous, Past Perfect or Past Perfect Continuous. Use the verb given in brackets. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

- 1 They stood under the shelter because it (rain).
- 2 The roads were wet because it (rain) all night.
- 3 He was broke. He (spend) all his money.
- 4 I (have) a nightmare when the alarm went off and woke me up.
- 5 His hands were covered in oil because he (try) to fix the car all morning. Unfortunately, he (manage) to make it start.
- 6 When she opened the window she was happy to see it (snow) lightly. In fact, it (snow) all night and snow (cover) all the rooftops.
- 7 When Mrs Morgan came into the classroom, the pupils (run) around and (scream) at the tops of their voices. They (knock) over chairs and desks and someone (draw) funny pictures on the board.
- 8 Although I (set) off early, I got there late and everyone (wait) for me to start the meeting; the chairperson told me they (wait) for a whole hour.
- 9 When we got back from our holiday we discovered that someone (break) into our house.

4. Fill each gap in this text with one suitable word.

DISASTER!

About seventy years ago, a Dutch ship was (1) near the North Pole; it (2) heading for Blacklead Island. On the ship was a scientist, Edgar Greenhead, who (3) worked on the island for many years; he had (4) conducting research into the life of the local inhabitants, who were Eskimos (Inuits). Greenhead had (5) away for a long holiday and now he was (6) back to the island to continue his work.

At about midnight, Greenhead felt very tired as he had (7) writing his journal all day. After he had (8) good-night to the captain, he (9) down to his cabin. Outside there (10) a strong wind, and the waves (11) crashing onto the side of the ship. Greenhead was just (12) ready to climb into his bunk when he suddenly (13) a great crash. He dashed up on deck and although it was dark he (14) see that the ship (15) run into an iceberg.

2.

Irregular verbs

Complete the sentences with the irregular verb in the box in either the Past Simple or the Past Perfect.

- fall
- 1 Harry in love with a Greek girl while he was working in Athens.
- 2 He in love before, but this was different. He wanted to marry her.
- tear
- 3 Johann saw Camilla's trousers and asked how she them.
- 4 While she was hiking in the Alps, she her trousers on a rock.
- cost
- 5 It an awful lot to have our car fixed.
- 6 Ted told me his new car a fortune.
- fly
- 7 When I went to Australia, I was nervous because I (never) before.
- 8 The plane took off and into the clouds.
- catch
- 9 Suzy wondered how she a cold in the middle of her summer holiday.
- 10 She a taxi outside the restaurant, and went back to her hotel.
- be
- 11 Talks held in New York last week to discuss global warming.
- 12 When the politicians left the talks, no decisions reached.