

**1 Circle the correct tense, past simple or past perfect simple.**

It was ten o'clock in the evening. Peter (1) *sat / had sat* down on his sofa and thought about the day. What a busy day it (2) *was! / had been!* This was his first night in his own flat. He (3) *lived / had lived* his entire life in the family home, and now for the first time, he (4) *was / had been* on his own.

He sat surrounded by boxes that they (5) *didn't manage / hadn't managed* to unpack during the day. It (6) *took / had taken* months to get all his things together. His mother (7) *was / had been* very generous, buying him things like towels and mugs.

He (8) *went / had gone* into the kitchen and (9) *got / had got* a beer from the fridge. He suddenly (10) *felt / had felt* very tired and yawned. No wonder he (11) *was / had been* tired! He (12) *was / had been* up since six o'clock in the morning. He (13) *decided / had decided* to finish his beer and go to bed.

**2 Put the verb into the correct tense, past simple or past perfect.**

- 1 Sally was at home when we arrived, but she (go out) ..... soon afterwards.
- 2 When I opened the safe, the money (disappear) .....
- 3 Andrew was late for school yesterday. When he got to the classroom, the lesson (start) .....
- 4 They waited until everyone was ready and then they (start) ..... the meeting.
- 5 The house was very quiet when I got home. Everybody (go) ..... to bed.
- 6 I felt very tired when I got home, so I (go) ..... straight to bed.
- 7 Sorry I'm late. The car (break down) ..... on my way here.

- 8 There was a car by the side of the road. It (break down) ..... and the driver was trying to repair it. So we (stop) ..... to see if we could help.
- 9 Andrew (do) ..... the test before, so he (find) ..... it very easy.
- 10 I (not laugh) ..... at the joke because I (hear) ..... it before.
- 11 When I found my wallet I (discover) ..... that somebody (take) ..... the credit cards out of it.

**3 Rewrite the two sentences to form one single sentence. Change one verb into the past perfect.**

- 1 Nick worked for four hours. He had a break. (after)  
Nick .....
- 2 Steve didn't go to sleep. He read all the magazine. (until)  
Steve .....
- 3 Sarah earned some money. She bought a bicycle. (because)  
Sarah .....
- 4 I went to work. I finished breakfast. (after)  
I .....
- 5 Simon was tired. He got up early. (because)  
Simon .....

**4 Put the verbs into the correct tense. Choose from past simple, past continuous, present perfect or past perfect.**

Dear Julie  
I hope you have a nice birthday. I can't believe it's November already. This year (1-go) ..... so quickly. But it (2-be) ..... an exciting year for us so far. In February we (3-go) ..... skiing in Canada. We (4-never be) ..... there before. We (5-have) ..... a

wonderful time. And guess what! While I (6-sit) ..... in the hotel lobby one day, I (7-meet) ..... Sandra Roberts. Do you remember her? She (8-not recognize) ..... me at first. She and her husband (9-stay) ..... at the same hotel as us. Isn't life strange? Then when we (10-come back) ..... from our holiday, we (11-get) ..... a real shock. While we (12-be) ..... away, the house had been burgled. Not much was stolen, but it was still very unpleasant. The police still (13-not catch) ..... the burglars.

In April Claire and Dan (14-get married) ..... The weather (15-not be) ..... very good, but it (16-be) ..... a lovely wedding. As the waiter (17-carry) ..... in the wedding cake, he (18-drop) ..... it. We (19-not know) ..... whether to laugh or cry.

Claire and Dan lived in Dan's old flat for a while, but then they (20-buy) ..... a house near London. They (21-live) ..... there for a couple of months now. We (22-not see) ..... them since they (23-move) ....., but they're coming here for Christmas.

### 5 Complete the text with the correct tense of the verb in brackets.

Three years ago I was on holiday in Mexico with two friends, Jon and Cath. One day we (1-walk) ..... in the mountains when we (2-find) ..... the entrance to a cave. We climbed down to have a look. Jon wanted me to go first, of course! I (3-never see) ..... anything so beautiful. The colours and shapes of the rocks were amazing. But while we (4-explore) ..... the cave, it suddenly (5-start) ..... to fill with water. It (6-rain) ..... hard, and we couldn't get out. I can still remember what Jon said: *'If it (7-not stop) ..... raining, we (8-die)*

..... ' We all (9-write) ..... short letters to our families. Then, very slowly, the water dropped enough for us to escape. I (10-never be) ..... so happy to see blue sky! I (11-love) ..... to go to Mexico again, but I (12-never go) ..... down another cave as long as I live. It was definitely the most frightening experience I (13-ever have) .....

### Answer Key

- 1 1-sat 2-had been 3-had lived 4-was 5-hadn't managed 6-had taken 7-had been 8-went 9-got 10-felt 11-was 12-had been 13-decided
- 2 1-went out 2-had disappeared 3-had started 4-started 5-had gone 6-went 7-broke 8-had broken, stopped 9-had done, found 10-didn't laugh, had heard 11-discovered, had taken
- 3 1 Nick had a break after he had worked for four hours.  
2 Steve didn't go to sleep until he had read all the magazine.  
3 Sarah bought a bicycle because she had earned some money.  
4 I went to work after I had finished breakfast.  
5 Simon was tired because he had got up early.
- 4 1-has gone 2-has been 3-went 4-had never been 5-had 6-was sitting 7-met 8-didn't recognize 9-were staying 10-came back 11-got 12-were 13-haven't caught 14-got married 15-wasn't 16-was 17-was carrying 18-dropped 19-didn't know 20-bought 21-have lived 22-haven't seen 23-moved
- 5 1-were walking 2-found 3-had never seen 4-were exploring 5-started 6-was raining 7-doesn't stop 8-will die 9-wrote 10-had never been 11-would love 12-will never go 13-have ever had