

# Past Time

## 1. Choose the most suitable tense. The first one is done for you.

1. I suddenly remembered that I forgot/**had forgotten** my keys.
2. While Diana watched/was watching her favourite television programme, there was a power-cut.
3. Tom used to live/would live in the house at the end of the street.
4. Who was driving/drove the car at the time of the accident?
5. By the time Sheila got back, Chris went/had gone.
6. David ate/had eaten Japanese food before, so he knew what to order.
7. I did/was doing some shopping yesterday, when I saw that Dutch friend of yours.
8. I used to like/was liking sweets much more than I do now.
9. What exactly were you doing/did you do when I came into your office yesterday?
10. Laura missed the party because no-one was telling/had told her about it.
11. Tanya would/used to be a doctor.

## 2. Put each verb in brackets into a suitable tense. All sentences refer to past time. Only use the past perfect where this is absolutely necessary.

1. While I (try) **was trying** to get my car started, a passing car (stop) **stopped** and the driver (offer) **offered** to help me.
2. The police (pay)..... no attention to Clare's complaint because she (phone) ..... them so many times before.
3. Mary (not wear)..... her glasses at the time, so she (not notice) ..... what kind of car the man (drive) .....
4. Nick (lie) ..... Down on the grass for a while, next to some tourists who (feed) ..... the ducks.
5. Tony (admit) ..... that he (hit) ..... the other car, but said that he (not damage) ..... it.
6. Sorry, I (not listen) ..... to you. I (think) ..... about something else.
7. Helen (feel) ..... very tired, and while she (finish) ..... her studying, she (fall) ..... asleep.
8. The police (get)..... to Claire's house as fast as they could, but the burglars (disappear) .....
9. I (phone) ..... you last night, but you (not answer) ..... . What (you do) ..... ?
10. We (not go) ..... out yesterday because it (rain) .....

### 3. Put each verb in brackets into a suitable past tense.

When Professor Mallory, the famous archeologist, (1) **invited** (invite) me to take part in his expedition to find the Lost City of the Himalayas, I (2) ..... (not hesitate) to accept his invitation. Mallory (3) ..... (discover) an ancient map showing the position of the city, although no European (4) .....(ever go) to the area before. In fact, most of Mallory's colleagues in Oxford either (5) ..... (believe) that the city (6) ..... (never exist) or (7) ..... (feel) that it (8) .....( vanish) long ago and (9) ..... (become) simply a legend. According to the Professor, the builders of the city (10) ..... (hide) it among the mountains in order to protect its immense riches. He (11) ..... (believe) that the descendants of these ancient people (12) ..... (still keeping) themselves apart from the rest of mankind for the very same reasons. So when we (13) ..... (set off) on a cool May morning towards the distant mountains, each of us (14) ..... (look forward) to exciting discoveries. For a week or more we (15) ..... (climb) higher and higher, following the map, which Mallory (16) ..... (study) from time to time. Then one afternoon, while we (17) ..... (rest) at the top of a valley , we (18) ..... (notice) that a rider on a horse (19) ..... (wave) at us from the other side of the valley. A rider whose clothes (20) ..... (shine) like gold!

### 4. Rewrite each sentence, beginning as shown, using a participle clause.

1. Norman collected the parcel, but then he realized it was the wrong one.  
After **collecting the parcel, Norman realized it was the wrong one.**
2. Sue left the house, but first she checked that she had her keys.  
Before.....
3. Mark was parking his car when he noticed the wing-mirror was broken.  
While .....
4. Julia cleaned the house, but then she fell asleep on the sofa.  
After .....
5. Brian bought a new television, but first he checked all the prices.  
Before .....
6. Alan was skiing in Switzerland and met his old friend, Ken.  
While .....
7. Kate took two aspirins, and then she felt a lot better.  
After .....
8. First Trudy read the book, and then she decided that she didn't like it.  
After .....