

Language Focus Unit 1

Past perfect

1 Complete the texts. Use the past simple, the past perfect and the *used to* form of the verbs in each text.

1 (belong / buy / live)

My mum and dad _____ in this street. They _____ a house here which _____ to a 50s rock star.

2 (buy / use / write)

Our dad _____ his first computer in 1980. It cost €300. Before that, he _____ an old typewriter. He _____ letters on it.

3 (be / change / not have)

Jessica _____ blonde hair. Before she _____ her hair colour, it _____ brown.

4 (go / meet / not have)

Grandad _____ Gran in the 1950s. They _____ to the cinema a lot. Before that, Grandad _____ a girlfriend.

5 (do / play / move)

My uncle _____ football for Chelsea. Before he _____ to London, he _____ a lot of sports in his hometown.

2 Complete the text with the past simple, past continuous or past perfect form of the verbs.

In music history, Stuart Sutcliffe is known as the fifth Beatle. In 1960, when the Beatles (1) _____ (play) in Hamburg, Germany, Stuart (2) _____ (be) the bass guitarist. He (3) _____ (be) also in love. He (4) _____ (meet) a girl called Astrid Kirchherr. The Beatles (5) _____ (return) to Britain at the end of the year without Stuart because he (6) _____ (decide) to stay in Germany to study art. But things went wrong when he (7) _____ (start) to have terrible headaches. The doctors (8) _____ (not know) what was wrong with him. One day, while he (9) _____ (study) in an art class, he (10) _____ (become) very ill. When the Beatles (11) _____ (return) to Germany in 1962, Astrid (12) _____ (wait) for them with some terrible news. Stuart (13) _____ (die).

Past narrative tenses

3 Circle the mistake in each sentence and correct it. One of the sentences is correct.

1 Last weekend they played football on Saturday, but they weren't doing sports on Sunday.

2 Dad was taking my birthday cake out of the oven when he'd burned his hand.

3 Brett was opening the box and then he saw the 19th-century soldier's uniform.

4 Did Julian fall off his bike and hurt his leg while he was cycling to the museum?

5 We were going to a café after we'd bought some souvenirs for our friends.

4 Complete the blog with one word in each gap.

Hi, everyone! Let me tell you about my fascinating experience! I (1) _____ in Moscow with my parents last week and we stayed in the Metropole Hotel. We (2) _____ in the hotel much because we wanted to do a lot of sightseeing. One day (3) _____ we were sitting on a train, I noticed a dog sleeping on one of the seats. After I (4) _____ taken a photo of the dog, the man sitting next to me (5) _____ me a bit about the homeless dogs of Moscow. He told me these dogs know how to use the trains to get around the city! The man and I (6) _____ chatting when the train (7) _____ at a station. The dog woke up and looked out the window, but it (8) _____ get off – it knew this wasn't his station. Can you believe it?

Have you had any interesting travelling experiences? Post your stories [HERE!](#)