# **Narrative Tenses**

## **Exercise 1:**

Match the narrative tenses to their descriptions.

past simple

past continuous

past perfect

past perfect continuous

1: \_...\_ is used for an action that took place before another action or

event in the past.

2: \_...\_ is used for an action in the past that was in progress before

another past action or event.

3: \_...\_ is used to describe a finished action or event in the past.

4: \_...\_ is used to describe an action or event in progress at a specific

time in the past

## **Exercise 2:**

Choose the correct option for the following sentences:

1: Phil and his wife \_...\_ when they were teaching in Botswana.

A: met

B: was meeting

C: used to meet

2: Their car broke down as they \_...\_ home.

A: were driving

B: had driving

C: had been driving

3: We wanted to go to Peru because we \_...\_ there before.

A: weren't going

B: hadn't been

C: didn't go

4: Hello, Karen. I thought you \_...\_ at the London office this week.

A: were working

B: worked

C: had worked

5: When she arrived her eyes were very red. I think she \_...\_.

A: was crying

B: cried

C: had been crying

## **Exercise 3:**

Read the story and choose the correct form of the verb.

Last year, my wife and I (1) **bought / were buying** our first house. We (2) **had already been living / were already living** together for five years before we bought our house, so we (3) **knew / were knowing** how to live together. I'll never forget the first house we (4) **looked / had looked** at. It (5) **was / was**

**being** a small house in a quiet town with small windows. While we (6) **were walking / had walked** around the house, I (7) **noticed / was noticing** how cold and dark it (8) **was / had been**. I (9) **was always living / had always lived** in a house with a lot of light and big windows, so I immediately (10) **hated / was hating** it. We (11) **saw / had seen** a few more houses after that which were all quite nice. We (12) **ended / had ended** up buying the second house that we (13) **visited / were visiting**. We (14) **had been seeing / had seen** it twice before we (15) **bought / had bought** it, just to be sure. I (16) **had been dreaming / was dreaming** of this day for a long time. Now, we have moved in. I'm really happy.

## **Exercise 4:**

Complete this first part of the story using one of the verbs below in their correct form.

drive

stop

rent

plan

stand

decide

be

be

Last summer, my cousin and I (1) \_...\_ to go on a road trip across America. We (2) \_...\_ the journey for months when the day to leave finally arrived. We (3) \_...\_ never \_...\_ to America before, so we (4) \_...\_ WERE both really excited about the trip ahead. We (5) \_...\_ a car from the airport and (6) \_...\_ it out onto the highway. After a few hours of driving, we (7) \_...\_ at a gas station. While we (8) \_...\_ outside the gas station, a large black truck pulled up next to us.

If you want to have your answers checked, send this document to Mr Du Buisson ([marc.dubuisson@sibu.ch](mailto:marc.dubuisson@sibu.ch))