**Past Simple / Past Continuous / Past Perfect Simple**

1. **Choose the correct answer.**
   1. I heard a knock at the front door, so I went to answer it.
   2. At this time yesterday, I was writing an essay.
   3. The football season began a month ago.
   4. She graduated from school in 2001.
   5. We entered the house quietly because everyone was sleeping.
   6. By the time we got to the cinema, the film had already started.
   7. The children were playing in the garden while their parents were watching them.
   8. They had left many hours before we arrived.
2. **Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use the Past Simple, Past Continuous or Past Perfect Simple.**
   1. They got to the airport as the plane was landing.
   2. She wore the shoes she had bought the previous day.
   3. I fell as I was running for the bus.
   4. What did she say when he asked her to marry him?
   5. When I was a student, I didn't have much money.
   6. Why was she still working at one o'clock in the morning?
   7. I was happy to see her because we hadn't seen each other for years.
   8. By the time we got to the shop, a long queue had already formed outside.
3. **Choose the sentence which is closer in meaning to the original.**
   1. I had already seen the film, but I decided to watch it again last night.
      1. Last night wasn't the first time that I had seen the film.
   2. The boys played football in the rain.
      1. The boys were playing football until it started to rain.
   3. I was writing an e-mail when our computer broke down.
      1. I had started writing an e-mail and then our computer broke down.
   4. My aunt bought me a lovely gift after she had spent the summer holiday with us.
4. When the summer holiday was over, my aunt bought me a lovely gift.
5. **Complete the passage with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.**

Until a few years ago, no one had heard of Harry Potter, the young wizard and hero of the children's book Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. The writer, JK Rowling, had already written several stories and books, but this was the first book that was published. She got the idea for the story of a wizard at magic school while she was traveling on a train to London. By the time the train reached King's Cross station, she had invented most of the characters. When the book was published in 1997, no one imagined it would be such a tremendous success, but it quickly became a bestseller. While millions of young readers in many countries were enjoying her first Harry Potter book, JK Rowling was thinking of ideas for the next book in this incredibly popular series.