

CHECK!

Documenting a memorable experience

LEVEL

Intermediate (B1)

NUMBER

EN_B1_3094C

LANGUAGE

English



Let's check!

- Can I document a memorable experience?
- Can I recognise a variety of words and phrases used to organise written information?
- Can I identify and correctly form the narrative tenses?
- Can I use narrative tenses to describe an unusual experience I have had?



Discuss

Describe the pictures. **What experiences** do they show?

Which of these experiences are **common** for a lot of people? Which experiences are more **unusual**?

Discuss your ideas as a class.





Learning outcome 1

Can I recognise a variety of words and phrases used to organise written information?



Organising written information

Categorise the words and phrases for organising written information.



1

(This) means...

2

to rise from ...
to...

3

This leads to...

4

Furthermore

5

as well as...

6

to see an
increase (in)

7

due to

8

to be
responsible for...

9

to make (it)
possible to (do)...

**Suggest a
reason or cause**

**Add another
point**

**Describe a
trend**

Describing a trend

Think about current trends. Are people doing **more or less** of these activities now than a few years ago? Why do you think that is?

- Working from home
- Ordering takeaways
- Taking photos
- Drinking alcohol
- Driving cars
- Eating meat
- Travelling abroad
- Learning a language

Write a short text about
ONE of these activities



using the words and
phrases for organising
written information



- to make (it) possible to (do)...
- (This) means...
- This leads to...
- to be responsible for...
- to see an increase in...
- due to...
- to rise from... to...
- Furthermore
- as well as
- also



Let's check! Feedback round

Your teacher will now highlight what was done well and some mistakes that were made **in the last activity** for you to reflect on



Good examples

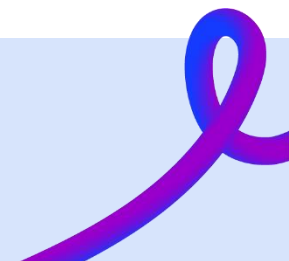


Find the mistake



Learning outcome 2

Can I identify and correctly form the narrative tenses?





Narrative tenses

Categorise the explanations below.

- 1 a **completed action** or **state** in the past
- 2 an action that **was happening** around a particular time in the past
- 3 an action that happened **before another action or event** in the past
- 4 something that happened at a **specific time** in the past
- 5 to give **background information**
- 6 an **ongoing** action that happened before another action or event in the past

Past simple

Past continuous

**Past perfect +
Past perfect continuous**

Identify the narrative tenses

Find examples of the narrative tenses in the text.

I was walking down the street last Monday morning on my way to work, when I realised that I had left my phone at home. So, I went back to get it, which made me late for my train.

I started running, hoping that I could still catch it. It was raining heavily now. The traffic light was red, but I didn't notice and I stepped straight out onto the road. Somebody grabbed me from behind, just as a motorbike raced past.

I turned around and saw the person who had saved my life. And then I got another surprise... He was very familiar, but at first I didn't know where I had met him before. Then, I realised – it was the actor who had played my favourite superhero from childhood!



Complete the sentences

Complete the sentences below using the verb in brackets in the **correct narrative tense**.

- 1 Last Saturday morning, I _____ (**go**) for my usual run in the local park. I _____ (**listen**) to loud music on my headphones and _____ (**think**) about my plans for the day.
- 2 After a while, I _____ (**notice**) that people _____ (**stare**) at me as I ran past. Some of them were laughing.
- 3 I _____ (**not, know**) what was so funny. I _____ (**feel**) a bit embarrassed, but I kept running and tried to ignore them.
- 4 Finally, I _____ (**turn**) around and _____ (**see**) a group of kids, three dogs and a cat behind me.
- 5 I _____ (**realise**) that they _____ (**follow**) me the whole time!



Let's check! Feedback round

Your teacher will now highlight what was done well and some mistakes that were made **in the last activity** for you to reflect on



Good examples



Find the mistake



Learning outcome 3

Can I use narrative tenses to describe an unusual experience I have had?

Describing an unusual experience

Complete the steps below.



Think of a story

- Think of an **unusual experience** you have had.
- Make some notes about it.

Use narrative tenses

- Write your notes into complete sentences, using the **narrative tenses** to tell the story.

Share your story!

- Read your story out loud.
- Your teacher and classmates will ask you **follow-up questions**.



Let's check! Feedback round

Your teacher will now highlight what was done well and some mistakes that were made **in the last activity** for you to reflect on



Good examples



Find the mistake



End of the lesson

Idiom

(That's) a likely story...

Meaning: We can use this phrase when we don't fully believe something that someone tells us.



Additional practice



Free practice



What are the narrative tenses?



What do we use the narrative tenses for?



Biographies

Look at the **prompts** in the boxes.

Describe the **biography** of one of the people below using narrative tenses.

You can use a search engine to **research** details.

They _____ born in...

A famous musician

Someone you admire

A famous sports person

He had been _____...

Jane Austen

A politician in your country

A friend of yours

She was _____...

A relative of yours

Your own biography

Barack Obama



Discuss



People have their most memorable experiences when they are young...

Do you agree?

Explain your answer.

What are some memorable experiences from your youth?





What happened?

Follow the steps below.



Make some notes about the picture to the left. What do you think happened?

Use the narrative tenses to write a short text telling the story.

Share your stories in the chat and compare
– did you come up with similar ideas?

Have you ever had an experience like the one shown in the picture?



Summary

Discussing documentary making

The rise of documentary film-making

- Streaming services have made documentaries more accessible to a wider audience.
- The quality of documentaries has also improved due to better technology.
- Factual content, for example the true crime genre, has seen a huge increase in popularity.

Organising written information

- Refer to a source of information: *According to the British film institute...*
- Suggest a reason or cause: *One factor responsible for the growing popularity of documentary is...*
- Add another point as part of the explanation or argument: *Additionally, there is a high demand for...*

24-hour news cycle

- This refers to the media culture of constant, live updates of breaking stories around the world.
- People access these stories online using phones, tablets, and other devices.
- Stories often stop being covered after only a few days as new stories begin to break.

Useful phrases

- *to make (it) possible...*
- *to see an increase (in)*
- *This leads to..*



Summary

Narrative tenses

Using narrative tenses:

- The narrative tenses are used together to talk about the past
- They are often used to tell stories and anecdotes, describe historical events
- You can also give biographical information using the narrative tenses

Past simple:

- Subject + verb 2 (*drove, ate, made, saw, completed, lived* etc...)
- The **past simple** tense is used for **completed actions** or **states** in the past
- We often give the **specific time** that they happened

Past continuous:

- Subject + *was/were* + verb-*ing*
- We use the **past continuous** to give **background information**
- Often, the action described by the past continuous is **interrupted** by an action in the past simple

Past perfect simple and continuous;

- Subject + *have/had* + past participle; subject + *have/had* + *been* + verb-*ing*
- **The past perfect** is used to talk about an action that happened **before a particular time**.
- The **continuous** form is used to show that the action was **ongoing**.



Summary

Writing a blog post

Blogs:

- The blog began as a kind of online diary, where individuals would share thoughts and opinion.
- There are blogs about every topic under the sun.
- Popular topics include fashion, food, travel, D.I.Y, parenting and politics.

Starting your own blog:

- When starting a blog, you need to find your niche.
- This means identifying the area that you know best.
- It is also important to that there is a specific audience for what you want to write about.

Attracting readers:

- You also need to think about how you can attract your readers.
- SEO is short for search engine optimization.
- SEO helps direct more people to your website through popular search engines.

Other things to consider:

- Have you chosen the right platform?
- Is your blog easy for its users to navigate?
- Have you promoted your blog using social media?



Vocabulary

streaming service

narrative film

genre

to uncover

to produce

24-hour news cycle

due to

to make (it) possible to...

additionally

according to...

to rise from... to...



Vocabulary

coincidence

flash food

anecdote

fatality

construction



Vocabulary

blog

content

to find your niche

audience

platform

to navigate

every topic under the sun



Answer key

P.5: Suggest a reason or cause: 1, 3, 7, 8, Add another point: 4, 5 Describe a trend: 2, 3, 6, 8, 9

P.9: Past simple: 1, 4 Past continuous: 2, 5 Past perfect: 3 Past perfect continuous: 6

P.11: 1. went; was listening, thinking 2. noticed; were staring 3. didn't know; felt 4. turned, saw 5. realised, had been following



Notes

