

Review of past tenses Page 103

- 1 Look at these extracts from the recording in Listening and answer the questions about the underlined verb forms.

- a He was very impressed by the meal I'd made for him.
- b As a child I used to watch my parents preparing meals at home ...
- c ... and I would imagine myself cooking something delicious.
- d First I went to catering college, in the autumn of 2001.
- e I was working very long hours when I was there.
- f I'd been thinking of going to Paris for some time before I actually went.

Which verb form do we use:

- 1 for actions or events in the past?
- 2 to talk about something that was going on when something else happened?
- 3 when we are already talking about the past and we want to talk about an earlier event?
- 4 to talk about how long something went on up to a point in the past?
- 5 to talk, without using time expressions, about things we did regularly in the past but don't do anymore?
- 6 like 5, but only for actions, not states?

- 2  Correct the mistakes in these sentences written by exam candidates. In some cases more than one answer is possible.

- 1 He started walking back to the shop where he left his bike the day before.
- 2 People saw that Anita cried, but nobody could help her.
- 3 The street party was something that we organised for weeks before the holidays.
- 4 I used to be a member of a swimming club for about ten years.
- 5 We were very surprised as we knew that the house was empty for nearly thirty years.
- 6 I listened, and it was clear that someone walked across the floor.
- 7 When you look back, people didn't used to worry about what they ate.
- 8 I wanted to go to Egypt because I used to decide that I wanted to be an archaeologist.

- 3 Choose the correct form of the verb (A, B or C) to complete each sentence.

- 1 I don't think I Holly before last week's party.
A was meeting B met C 'd met
- 2 My aunt and uncle had no children of their own, so they a baby girl last year.
A adopted B used to adopt C were adopting
- 3 When I got home last night I felt quite tired because I at the club all evening.
A used to dance B 'd been dancing C danced
- 4 Sean with somebody else all last summer, but now he's my sister's boyfriend.
A used to go out B had gone out C was going out
- 5 I was born in July 1983. My mother a widow only two months earlier.
A became B had become C was becoming
- 6 When I arrived at Micky's house, everyone a film on TV.
A watched B used to watch C was watching

- 4 Use the given verb form to complete the sentences.

- 1 This morning I saw my cousin Emilia while I ... (past continuous)
- 2 Nowadays I go on holiday with friends, but when I was younger I ... (used to)
- 3 My stepbrother was upset and his eyes were red because he ... (past perfect continuous)
- 4 I made friends with lots of people when I ... (past continuous)
- 5 When we were kids, we often went to birthday parties where we ... (would)
- 6 I had a date with Zyta, but I was late and by the time I arrived she ... (past perfect)

