

UNIT 2

Past Forms

Past Simple

FORM

I / He / She / We **returned / left**.
Did he return / leave? / Yes, he **did**. / No, he **didn't**.
 He **did not (didn't) return / leave**.

Use

The **past simple** is used:

- ◆ for an action which happened at a definite time in the past. The time is stated, already known or implied.

*They **spent** their holidays in Switzerland last winter.*
(When did they go to Switzerland?
Last winter. The time is stated.)
*They **had** a great time.*
(The time is already known.)



- ◆ for actions which happened immediately one after the other in the past.



*First, he **read** the message. Then, he **called** his boss.*

- ◆ for past habits or states which are now finished. In such cases we can also use the expression **used to**.

*People **travelled/ used to travel** by carriage in those days.*



Past Continuous

FORM

I / He / She **was** / We / They **were watching**.
Was he / Were they watching? Yes, he **was**. / No, they **weren't**.
 He **was not (wasn't)** / They **were not (weren't) watching**.

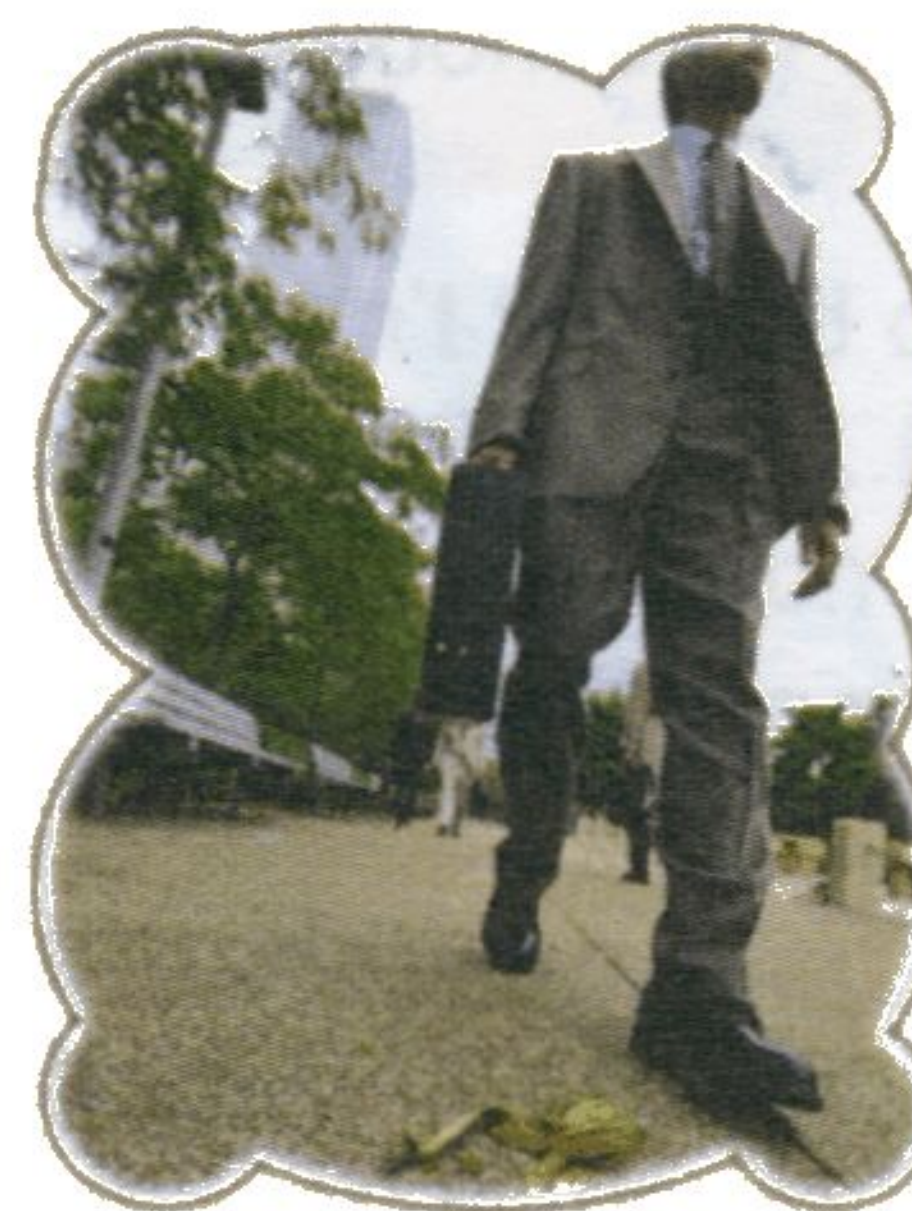
The **past continuous** is used:

- ◆ for an action which was in progress at a stated time in the past. We do not mention when the action started or finished.

*At three o'clock yesterday afternoon, they **were sitting** at an outdoor café.* (We do not know when they got to or when they left the café.)



- ◆ for an action which was in progress when another action interrupted it. We use the **past continuous** for the action in progress (longer action) and the **past simple** for the action which interrupted it (shorter action).



*He **was walking** when he **slipped** on a banana skin.*

- ◆ for two or more simultaneous past actions.

*She **was steering** the boat while he **was playing** the guitar.*



- ◆ to talk about the lives of people who are no longer alive.

Marilyn Monroe **starred** in a number of successful films.



The past simple is used with the following time expressions: *yesterday, last night/week/month/year/Monday, etc., two days/weeks/months, etc. ago, then, when, How long ago...?, in 1992/1845, etc.*

- 1 Look at Appendix 1. Write the past simple of the verbs in the list in the correct box.

bake, fry, stay, stop, complete, try, hire, rub, travel, cry, pray, play, promise, refer, tidy, destroy

- e + d	<i>baked</i>
double consonant + ed	<i>stopped</i>
consonant + x → ied	<i>fried</i>
vowel + y + ed	<i>stayed</i>

- 2 Look at Appendix 1. Write the past simple of the verbs in the box, then read them out.

land, book, dive, attach, present, start, jump, crash, need, look, prefer, attract, kiss, arrange, water, clean, protest, pretend

/ id / (after / t /, / d /)	<i>landed</i>
/ t / (after / k /, / s /, / tʃ /, / ʃ /, / f /, / p /)	<i>booked</i>
/ d / (after all other sounds)	<i>dived</i>

- ◆ to describe the atmosphere, the setting, etc. in the introduction to a story before we describe the main events.

Todd and Emily **were riding** through the forest. The sun **was shining** and the birds **were singing**.



The past continuous is used with the following time expressions: *when, while, as, all day/night/morning, etc.*

- 3 First, fill in the table. Then choose five verbs and make sentences using the past simple.

Infinitive	Past	Past Participle
become	<i>became</i>	<i>become</i>
begin
blow
creep
dig
eat
fall
feel
hang
pay
ride
shake
speed
throw

- 4 Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the past continuous.

She 1) *...was lying...* (lie) in bed when she 2) (hear) a sudden noise. She 3) (open) her eyes in horror. Someone 4) (open) a downstairs window; they 5) (try) to get into her house. She 6) (climb) slowly out of bed and 7) (creep) to the door. She 8) (stand) very still and listening carefully when she 9) (see) a light downstairs. It 10) (move) about as if someone 11) (hold) a torch and searching for something. She 12) (know) that they 13) (look) for her.

UNIT 2

Past Forms

5

The following people were in the living room at nine o'clock last night. What were they doing? In pairs, ask and answer questions using the prompts below, as in the example.

SA: *What were Mr Scott and Grandpa doing?*

SB: *They were playing chess.*



- 1 Mr Scott and Grandpa / play chess
- 2 Mrs Scott / watch TV
- 3 Grandma / knit
- 4 Lisa / write a letter
- 5 Tom and Paul / play with their toys
- 6 The cat / sit by the fire

6

Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the past continuous. Then, say which uses of these tenses are shown in each extract.

A Charlie Chaplin 1) ...*became*... (become) one of the best-known personalities in America within two years of his first appearance in motion pictures. He 2) (be) so famous that no studio could afford to pay him, so he 3) (appear) only in films which he 4) (produce) himself.

B It 1) (happen) at ten o'clock last night. John 2) (sit) in his cosy living room with his wife and children. They 3) (watch) the evening news on TV when suddenly, the lights 4) (go out) and everything in the house 5) (become) quiet.

C The boys 1) (play) football on the river bank while the girls 2) (talk). Everyone 3) (enjoy) the picnic when suddenly they 4) (hear) a loud cry from further up the river. They all 5) (rush) to see what was wrong.

D In prehistoric times, people 1) (live) in caves. They 2) (hunt) animals which they then 3) (use) for food and clothing. They 4) (make) everything by themselves, and they 5) (have) very simple lives.

7

A Look at the notes below and say what Rick did yesterday, using the linking words from the list.

first, then, next, after that, finally

S1: *First, Rick got up at seven.*

S2: *Then, he had breakfast.*

7 am	get up
7:15 - 8:15 am	have breakfast
8:30 - 9 am	drive to work
11 am - 1 pm	talk to some clients
1:30 - 2 pm	have a lunch break
4 - 5 pm	prepare a speech
5:30 - 6:30	drive home

B Now, in pairs, ask and answer questions about what Rick was doing at the times in the list below.

SA: *What was he doing at half past seven in the morning?*

SB: *He was having breakfast.*

7:30 am	11:30 am	4:30 pm
8:45 am	1:45 pm	6 pm

when/while/as + past continuous (longer action)
when + past simple (shorter action)

8

Join the sentences using *as, when and while*, as in the examples.

- 1 Kim was looking out of the window. She saw Mike.
As / When / While Kim was looking out of the window, she saw Mike.
Kim was looking out of the window when she saw Mike.
- 2 Cathy was washing the dishes. She dropped a glass.
- 3 The children were playing. Their father came home.
- 4 Robert was driving home. He got a flat tyre.
- 5 Mick and Charlie were leaving the bank. The police surrounded them.

9

Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the past continuous. Which was the longer action in each sentence?

- 1 They ...*were cleaning*... (clean) the windows when it ...*started*... (start) to rain.
Cleaning the windows was the longer action.
- 2 As he (drive) to work, he (remember) that his briefcase was still at home.
- 3 Melanie (cook) dinner when her husband (come) home.
- 4 I (hear) a loud crash as I (sit) in the garden.
- 5 She (type) a letter when her boss (arrive).
- 6 While the dog (dig) in the garden, it (find) a bone.
- 7 Mary (ride) her bicycle when she (notice) the tiny kitten.
- 8 While I (do) my homework, the phone (ring).

10

A policeman is asking Mrs Hutchinson about a car accident she happened to see yesterday. Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the past continuous.



- P: What 1) ...*were you doing*... (you/do) when you 2) (see) the accident, madam?
H: I 3) (walk) down the street.
P: What exactly 4) (you/see)?
H: Well, the driver of the car 5) (drive) down the road when suddenly the old man just 6) (step) in front of him! It 7) (be) terrible!
P: 8) (the driver/speed)?
H: No, not really, but the old man 9) (not/look) both ways before he 10) (try) to cross the road.
P: 11) (anyone else/see) the accident?
H: Yes, the lady in the post office.
P: Thank you very much.

11

Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the past continuous.

- A** As soon as Margaret 1) ...*got*... (get) off the train, she 2) (pull) her coat around her. Rain 3) (fall) heavily and a cold wind 4) (blow) across the platform. She 5) (look) around, but no one 6) (wait) to meet her. She 7) (turn) to leave when she 8) (hear) footsteps. A man 9) (walk) towards her. He 10) (smile) at her, then he 11) (say), 'You're finally here.'
- B** George 1) (pick) up his bag then, 2) (throw) it over his shoulder. It 3) (get) dark and he 4) (have) a long way to go. He wished that he had let someone know that he was coming. It 5) (start) to rain, and he was feeling cold and tired from the long journey. Suddenly, he 6) (hear) a noise, then he 7) (see) two bright lights on the road ahead. A car 8) (head) towards him. It slowed down and finally 9) (stop) beside him. A man 10) (sit) at the wheel. He 11) (open) the door quickly and 12) (say) 'Get in, George.'
- C** Andy 1) (step) into the house and 2) (close) the door behind him. Everything 3) (be) quiet. His heart 4) (beat) fast and his hands 5) (shake) as he crept silently into the empty house, but he was trying not to panic. He soon 6) (find) what he 7) (look) for. He smiled with relief as he put on the clothes. The men who 8) (follow) him would never recognise him now.

12

Imagine that you were present when these things happened, then, in pairs, ask and answer questions, as in the example.

- SA: *What were you doing when the burglar broke in?*
SB: *I was watching TV.*
SA: *What did you do?*
SB: *I called for help.*

- 1 The burglar broke in.
- 2 The storm broke.
- 3 The lights went out.
- 4 The boat overturned.
- 5 The earthquake hit.
- 6 The building caught fire.

UNIT 2

Past Forms

Used to/Be used to/ Get used to

- ◆ We use **used to + infinitive** to refer to past habits or states. In such cases, *used to* can be replaced by the past simple with no difference in meaning.

e.g. He **used to go out**/He **went out** a lot when he was younger. (He *doesn't* any more.)

Did she use to spend/Did she spend a lot of money when she was single?

We use the past simple, and not *used to*, for actions which happened at a definite time in the past.

e.g. He **visited** Paris last month.

(NOT: He ~~used to visit~~ Paris last month.)

- ◆ Look at the following examples of how we can use **be/get used to**:

be/get used to + noun/pronoun/-ing form

e.g. a) They **are used to hot weather**.

(They are accustomed to hot weather. - present)

b) I'm **used to getting up early**.

(I'm accustomed to getting up early. - present)

c) She **wasn't used to working at night**.

(She wasn't accustomed to working at night. - past)

d) Mary **is getting used to life in the city**.

(Mary is becoming accustomed to life in the city. - present)

e) Simon **had never lived in a tropical country before, but he quickly got used to it**.

(He became accustomed to it. - past)

f) They **will soon get used to cooking their own meals**.

(They will become accustomed to cooking their own meals. - future)

13

Rewrite each person's comment using *used to* or *didn't use to*.

- Sally - 'I don't walk to work any more.'
I used to walk to work.
- Gordon - 'I've got a dog now.'
- Lisa - 'I don't eat junk food any more.'
- Jane - 'I go to the gym every night now.'
- Paul - 'I'm not shy any more.'
- Edward - 'I live in a big house now.'
- Helen - 'I haven't got long hair any more.'
- Frank - 'I eat lots of vegetables now.'

14

Choose the correct answer.

- 'I find it hard to get up early.'
'You ...**B**... to getting up early once you start working.'
A are used B will get used C were used
- 'Do you often exercise now?'
'No, but I to exercise a lot when I was at school.'
A used B will get used C am used
- 'Aren't you bothered by all that noise?'
'No, we to noise. We live in the city centre.'
A were used B will get used C are used
- 'Does your sister travel a lot?'
'No, but she to before she got married.'
A didn't use B used C wasn't used
- 'I don't like wearing a suit every day.'
'Don't worry, you to it very soon.'
A are used B will get used C were used
- 'Sandra to using a computer, but now she enjoys it.'
'It's a lot easier for her now.'
A isn't used B will get used C wasn't used
- 'Do you remember the things we to do when we were kids?'
'Of course I do. How could I forget what fun we had!'
A used B were used C got used
- 'Do you like living in the city?'
'Well, I to it yet, but it's okay.'
A am not used B wasn't used C am used

15

Fill in the gaps with one of the verbs from the list in the correct form. Use each verb twice.

wash, walk, play, work

- I used to ...*work*... in a shop, but now I work in an office.
- I can't concentrate. I'm not used to in such a noisy office.
- Tom lived in the country for years. He used to miles every day.
- I'm exhausted. I'm not used to such long distances.
- Mary used to her clothes by hand, but now she uses a washing machine.
- We haven't got a washing machine, so we're used to our clothes by hand.
- The children are bored with the bad weather. They're used to outside.
- When we were younger, we used to cowboys and Indians.

Past Simple versus Present Perfect

- ◆ We use the **past simple** for an action which happened at a definite time in the past. The time is stated, already known or implied.



Kate Steele **wrote** her first novel in 1970. (When? In 1970. The time is stated.)

- ◆ We use the **present perfect** for an action which happened at an unstated time in the past, that is, when the exact time is neither mentioned nor implied.)



Kate Steele **has written** a lot of successful novels. (When? We do not know. The exact time is neither mentioned nor implied.)

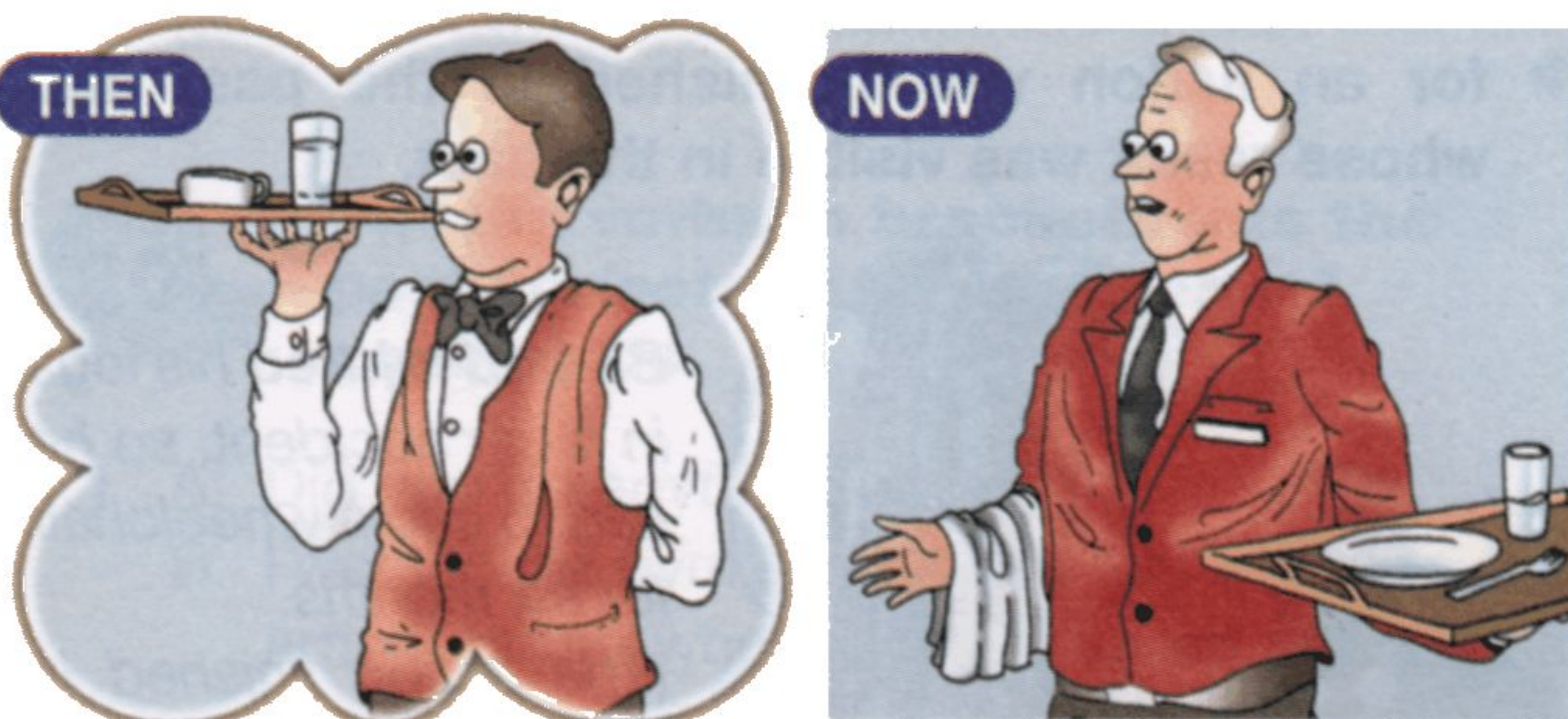
- We use the **past simple** to talk about the lives of people who are no longer alive, even if the time is not stated. e.g. William Shakespeare **wrote** 'Romeo and Juliet.' (Shakespeare is no longer alive. We do not mention when he wrote the play, however, we use the past simple.)

- ◆ We use the **past simple** for an action which began and finished in the past.



George Barns **was** a basketball player for ten years. (He is no longer a basketball player. He is a coach.)

- ◆ We use the **present perfect** or the **present perfect continuous** for an action which started in the past and continues up to the present.



Jim Presley **has worked/has been working** as a waiter for fifteen years. (He began working as a waiter fifteen years ago and he is still a waiter today.)

- ◆ We use the **present perfect** to announce a piece of news, and the **past simple** or **past continuous** to give more details about it. e.g. I've just seen the new boss. I **was talking** to Carol on the phone when he came in.

16

Put the verbs in brackets into the **past simple** or the **present perfect**.

- A A: Do you know that man?
B: Oh yes. He's a very good friend of mine. I
1) ...'ve known... (know) him for about ten years.
A: I think I 2) (meet) him at a business meeting last month.
- B A: Mum 1) (lose) her purse.
B: Where 2) (she/lose) it?
A: At the supermarket while she was shopping.

- C A: Who was on the telephone?
B: It 1) (be) Jane.
A: Who is Jane?
B: Someone who 2) (work) in my office for a few years. She's got a new job now, though.
- D A: Who is your favourite singer?
B: Freddie Mercury. He 1) (have) a wonderful voice.
A: Yes, I agree. He 2) (enjoy) performing live, too.

UNIT 2

Past Forms

Past Perfect

FORM

She **had arrived/gone**.

Had she arrived/gone? Yes, she **had**./No, she **hadn't**.

She **had not (hadn't) arrived/gone**.

Use

The **past perfect** is used:

- ◆ for an action which happened before another past action or before a stated time in the past.



*They **had already reserved** the table when they went to the restaurant. (They made a reservation first and then they went to the restaurant.)*

*They **had already sat** down for dinner by 8 pm.*

- ◆ for an action which finished in the past and whose result was visible in the past.



*Bill **had injured** his legs in a car accident, so he **had to use** a wheelchair for six months.*

(The action finished in the past and its result was visible in the past, too.)

Note:

The **past perfect** is the past equivalent of the present perfect.

- a) He **had broken** his leg, so he **couldn't walk**.
(The action 'had broken' happened in the past, and the result 'couldn't walk' was visible in the past, too.)
- b) He **has broken** his leg, so he **can't walk**.
(The action 'has broken' happened in the past, and the result 'can't walk' is still visible in the present.)

We can use the **past perfect** or the **past simple** with **before** or **after** without any difference in meaning.
e.g. She left **after** she **had finished** her work./She left **after** she **finished** her work.

The **past perfect** is used with the following time expressions: **before, after, already, for, since, just, till/until, when, by, by the time, never, etc.**

Past Perfect Continuous

FORM

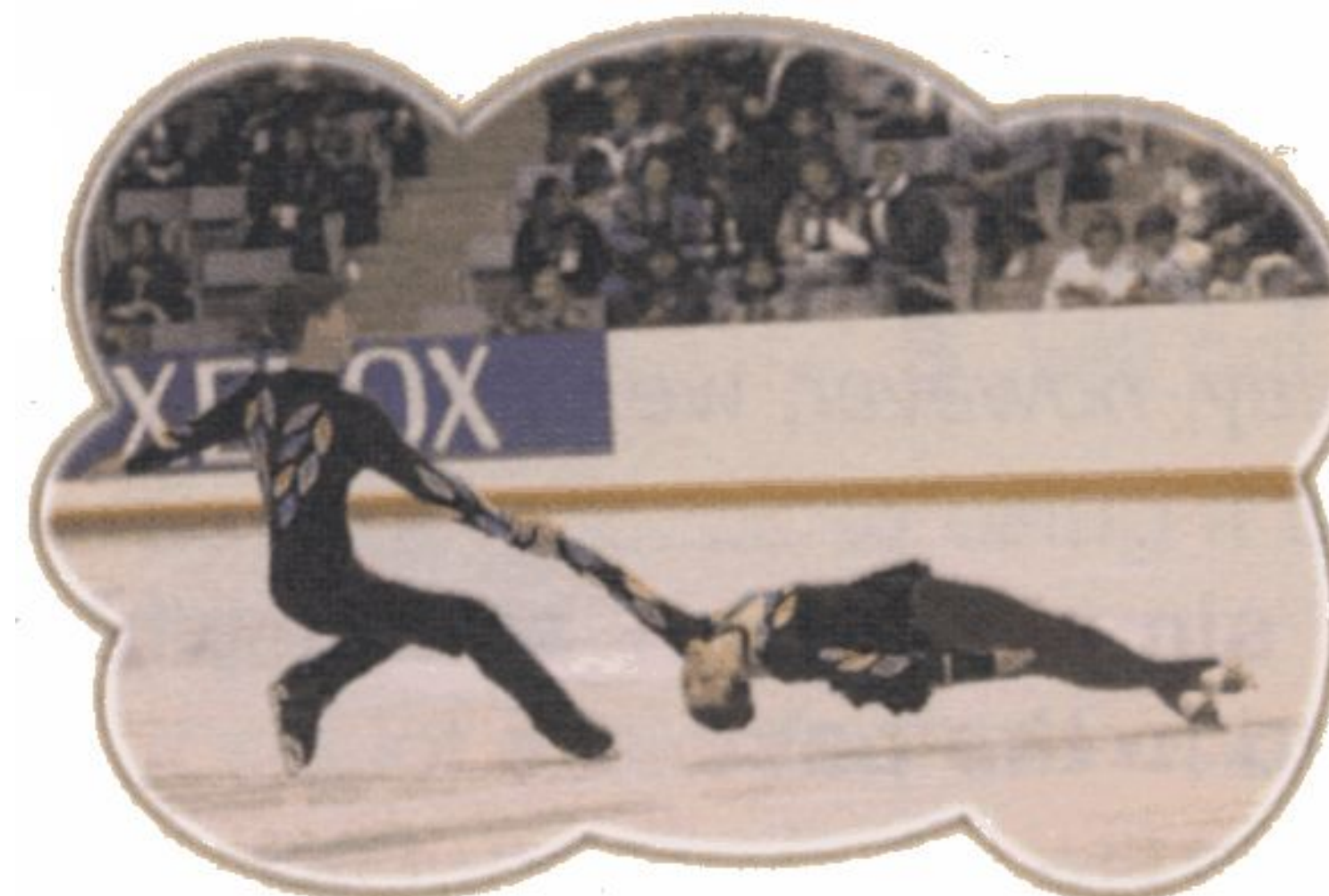
He **had been crying**.

Had he been crying? Yes, he **had**./No, he **hadn't**.

He **had not (hadn't) been crying**.

The **past perfect continuous** is used:

- ◆ to put emphasis on the duration of an action which started and finished in the past before another past action or a stated time in the past, usually with **since** or **for**.



*They **had been skating** together for five years before they entered the competition.*

- ◆ for an action which lasted for some time in the past and whose result was visible in the past.



*She **had been working** hard that day, so she was tired. (She spent all day working hard and the result of the action was visible in the past, too.)*

Note:

The **past perfect continuous** is the past equivalent of the present perfect continuous.

- a) He **had been waiting** for hours, so he **was bored**.
(The action 'had been waiting' lasted for some time in the past, and the result 'was bored' was visible in the past.)
- b) He **has been waiting** for hours, so he **is bored**.
(The action 'has been waiting' started in the past, and the result 'is bored' is still visible in the present.)

The **past perfect continuous** is used with the following time expressions: **for, since, how long, before, until, etc.**

17

Fill in the gaps with one of the verbs from the list in the past perfect continuous.

read, scream, argue, try, eat, watch



1 Emily was angry. She ..*had been arguing*.. with her parents for an hour.

2 Hannah felt sick. She chocolates all afternoon.



3 Allan had a headache. His baby sister for half an hour.

4 Emily was frightened. She a horror film for half an hour.



5 Simon was confused. He to win the game for hours.

6 John was very tired. He all night.

18

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past tense.

A On Monday morning, Jo 1) ...*missed*... (miss) the bus and had to walk to school. When she 2) (arrive), the bell 3) (already/ring) and lessons 4) (start). The children 5) (work) quietly when Jo 6) (walk) into the classroom.

B When Jamie 1) (get) to the party, a lot of people 2) (dance) to pop music. Everyone 3) (wear) jeans, and T-shirts. Jamie 4) (buy) a new suit for the party and he 5) (wear) that. He 6) (feel) quite silly because everyone 7) (look) at him.

19

First, say which action happened first, then join the sentences using the words in brackets, as in the example.

- 1 He saved a lot of money. Then, he bought a car. (when)
saved a lot of money: happened first
When he had saved a lot of money, he bought a car.
- 2 She hung out the washing. Then, it began to rain. (after)
- 3 Fiona tidied the house. Then, the children arrived home. (by the time)
- 4 The guests left. Then, she started cleaning. (when)
- 5 The girls put on their uniforms. Then, they went to school. (before)
- 6 The meeting started. Then, the lights went out. (already.....when)

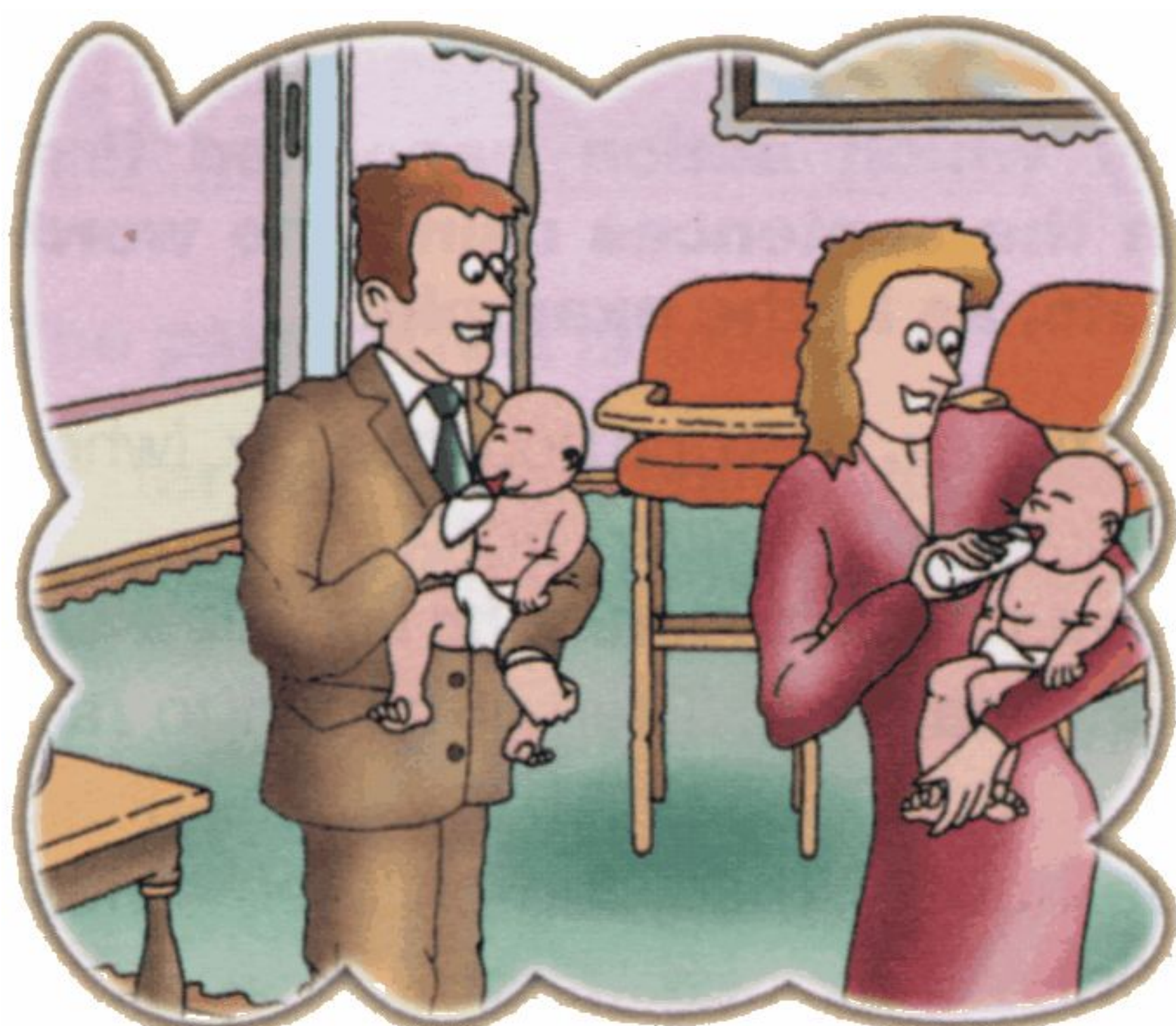
20

Put the verbs in brackets into the past perfect or the past perfect continuous.

- 1 A: Did you do anything last night?
B: I went to the gym and I ...*had just arrived*... (just/arrive) home when Michael called me. He said he (try) to call me for ten minutes before I finally answered the phone.
- 2 A: Did you catch any fish on your fishing trip today?
B: Yes. I (sit) in the boat for two hours when I caught a huge fish.
- 3 A: Did you enjoy the open-air concert yesterday?
B: The music was good, but the weather was terrible. The concert (just/start) when suddenly, it began to rain. The musicians (only / play) for ten minutes.
A: What a shame!
- 4 A: Was the house tidy when you got home?
B: Yes, the children (dust) the furniture and they (put away) all of their toys.
- 5 A: Why were you so upset this morning?
B: Well, I (clean) the house for hours when the children came in with muddy shoes.
- 6 A: Why are you so late for work this morning?
B: I'm sorry. I (wait) for the train for over an hour before it eventually arrived.

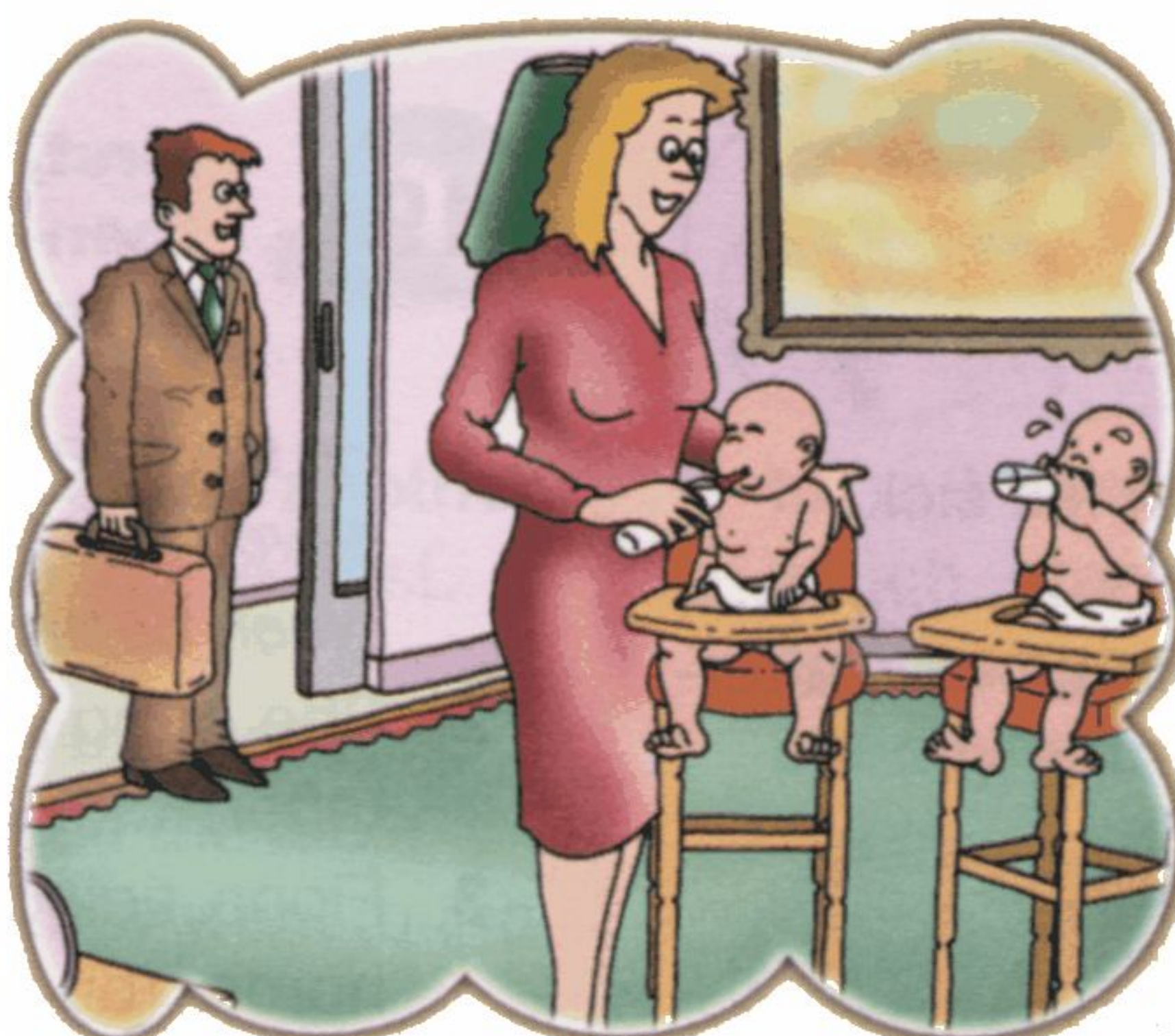
Past Simple - Past Continuous - Past Perfect

◆ The **past simple** is used for actions which happened immediately one after the other in the past.



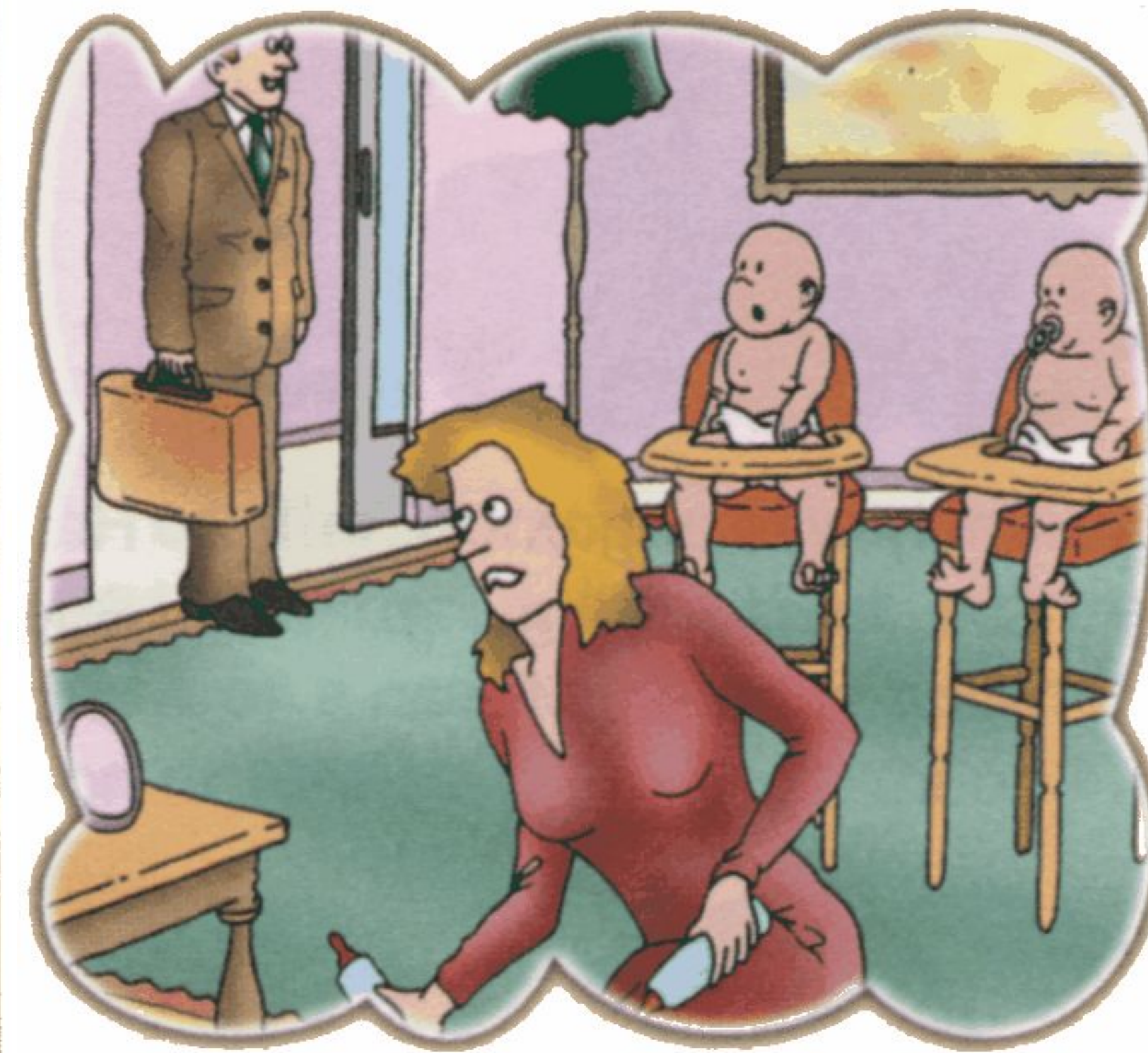
Last Monday, Lisa and her husband **fed** the children when he came home. (Her husband came home and then they fed the children together.)

◆ The **past continuous** is used for a past action which was in progress when another action interrupted it.



Last Tuesday, Lisa **was feeding** the children when her husband came home. (She was still feeding the children when her husband came home.)

◆ The **past perfect** is used for an action which happened before another past action.



Last Friday, Lisa **had already fed** the children when her husband came home. (She fed the children first. Her husband came home afterwards.)

21

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense.

- 1 A: Why was Tim so tired last night?
B: Oh, he ...*had been working*... (work) hard all day.
- 2 A: I (go) to the cinema last night.
B: Really? What (you/see)?
- 3 A: Did you have enough to eat at the party?
B: Yes. Sarah (make) a lot of food.
- 4 A: What (you/do) at eight o'clock last night?
B: I (watch) television. Why?
- 5 A: Colin! Look at yourself! You are filthy!
B: I know. I (repair) my motorbike.
- 6 A: I (do) something really silly yesterday.
B: Really, what?
A: I (get) up and (set off) for work as usual. I (drive) for an hour before I (realise) it was Sunday.
- 7 A: I (just/hear) some incredible news!
B: What?
A: Jason and Emily (get) married last week in Las Vegas. Isn't that amazing?

22

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense.

- A: What 1) ...*were you doing*... (do) when I 2) (call) at eight, Burt?
- B: I 3) (work) in the garden because the wind 4) (blow down) the fence during the night.
- A: Oh, 5) (you/manage) to fix it?
- B: Yes, I 6) (do) it eventually, but it 7) (be) very hard work. I 8) (ask) my neighbour to help in the end. Why 9) (you/call) me?
- A: I 10) (want) to tell you about the factory. It 11) (close down) yesterday.
- B: I know. The company 12) (have) problems for a long time before they finally 13) (decide) to close down the factory.
- A: I 14) (hope) they would change their minds about it, though. It 15) (be) a part of the town for years.
- B: Well, at least everyone who worked there 16) (now/find) a new job. That's good news.

23

Underline the correct tense.

- I saw Jim this morning. He ran/was running for the bus.
- Keri was angry. She **had been waiting/was waiting** for Sarah for two hours.
- Andy was relieved to hear that he **was passing/had passed** the exam.
- I **was walking/had walked** home when I saw Paul.
- Brian **learnt/had learnt** how to spell his name at school today.
- They **hadn't visited/weren't visiting** their grandparents for a long time.
- I **watched/was watching** television when the telephone rang.
- Jason **had been thinking/had thought** about his new car all day.
- I bought the dress because I **wanted/had wanted** something special to wear to the party.
- The little boy was crying because he **had lost/was losing** his mother.
- Graham **had been working/was working** for the company for twenty years before he retired.
- Pam **opened/had opened** the present and read the card.
- Lucy **wrote/had written** a letter to her sister last night.
- It **had been raining/was raining** all day and the roads were very wet.
- Sue **was smiling/had smiled** as she was reading Mary's letter.

24

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past tense.

- They ...*were walking*... (walk) in the park when the storm broke.
- The man (pay) for his new car in cash.
- I (already/eat) breakfast by the time the others woke up.
- It (snow) for three days when suddenly the sun came out.
- Sam (work) here for six years before he left to go to university.
- Liz (go) to the Bahamas for her holidays last year.
- We (watch) a film on TV when our guests arrived.
- They (already/see) the film twice at the cinema when she rented it on video.
- The teacher (teach) the children a song yesterday.
- He (sit) on the train at this time yesterday morning.

IN OTHER WORDS

Study these examples. The second sentence has a similar meaning to the first sentence.

- When did they buy their tickets?
since How long is it **since they bought** their tickets?
ago How long **ago did they buy** their tickets?
- She didn't begin cleaning until after all the guests had left.
before She waited until all the guests **had left before she began** cleaning.
- We haven't seen Carol for two weeks.
time The last **time we saw** Carol was two weeks ago.
- It's a long time since I ate out.
have I **have not eaten** out for a long time.
- It was the first time they had flown by Concorde.
never They **had never flown** by Concorde before.

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Complete each sentence with two to five words, including the word in bold.

- Jack hasn't travelled abroad for years.
time The last ...*time Jack travelled*... abroad was years ago.
- When did Monica get married?
since How long is it married?
- It was the first time she had visited the National Gallery.
never She the National Gallery before.
- Jessica didn't start cooking until after the children had fallen asleep.
before Jessica waited until the children started cooking.
- The last time I went to the theatre was months ago.
have I the theatre for months.
- It's two months since she called me.
has She me for two months.
- The president waited until all the reporters had arrived before he made his statement.
making The president didn't statement until all the reporters had arrived.
- We haven't played chess for a month.
since It's a month chess.
- She waited until Tom had left before she began packing.
after She didn't begin packing left.