



Past simple, past continuous and past perfect; used to and would

1 Circle the correct alternative.

- I felt/had felt nervous because I never was/had never been on a plane before.
- We read/had read a few travel books before we decided/had decided to visit Patagonia.
- She reserved/had reserved a place for her tent a few weeks before, but when she arrived/had arrived, the campsite was full.
- The area was/had been quite clean, as some responsible residents cleaned/had cleaned all the rubbish away.
- Did you ever find it/had you ever found the luggage you lost/had lost in the airport?
- I never thought/had never thought that travelling could harm the environment so dramatically before I read/had read that story in the paper.
- We planned/had planned a very detailed itinerary, but then we didn't have/hadn't had the time to visit all the places on our list.
- I managed/had managed to communicate with the local people because I learnt/had learnt a few words before the trip.

2 Complete these sentences with the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs given.

- I was looking (look) at the monitor screen when a voice announced (announce) my train.
- As I was packing (pack) my stuff, I realised (realise) that the suitcase was broken.
- While my Dad was getting (get) into the car, he saw (see) the message on the windscreen.
- We were checking (check in) our luggage when I remembered (remember) I had left my passport at home.
- It was raining (rain) heavily when they set off (set off) for the seaside.
- I had managed (manage) to send a text before the plane took off (take off).

3 Complete with the past simple, past perfect or past continuous form of the verbs given.

- 'What was (be) your hotel like?'
'Oh, it was (be) amazing - I had never stayed (never stay) in a five-star hotel before.'
- 'Did you have (you have) a good night's sleep?'
'Oh, yes. I was still sleeping (still sleep) when everybody else had had (have) breakfast.'
- 'Why did you take (you take) the train? It's such a long journey from Paris to London.'
'I know, but I died (die) to go through the Channel Tunnel.'
- 'Was (be) Tom excited about his trip to Mexico?'

'Of course. He felt (feel) as if a lifelong dream was coming (come) true.'

- 'Why were the kids crying (the kids cry)?'
'Because they got lost (get lost) in the safari park.'

4 Find the three sentences in which used to can be replaced with would.

- We used to go on backpacking expeditions holidays every year, but we haven't been on one for ages.
- This place used to be totally uncontaminated.
- Marie used to enjoy scuba diving when she was younger.
- I didn't use to plan our family holidays because I liked to surprise everyone.
- The writers said that she used to take inspiration from looking at nature.
- Mum used to speak Spanish very well when she was a student.

5 Choose the best answers to complete the text.

Once the fear of flying (1) B to stop many people from getting on a plane. But then airline companies started to offer Fearless Flyer courses and travelling has never been easier. We can read lots of success stories of people who (2) A they were never going to take a flight again, but then, after a ground session with a pilot, haven't stopped flying since. One of these stories reads as follows: 'I've always loved travelling, and this fear (3) C to ruin my holidays as well as my friendships. Normally, my friends (4) A and I (5) B a train, or more than one. Once it took me two days to join my friends, and they weren't happy at all. Then I (6) A about the Fearless Flyer course. I must confess that when I booked I thought I (7) B my money, but I was wrong. The pilot and the flight assistant were amazing - they explained to us how to control our fear, how a plane flies, and then answered all our questions. My flight was the next day. I was a bit nervous, but the flight assistant was always telling us exactly what (8) C at each moment. Then I did the relaxation techniques they (9) A us the day before, and by the time the plane (10) C, all my fears had gone.'

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| 1 | A would | <input checked="" type="radio"/> B used | C use to |
| 2 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> A promised | B used to promise | C had promised |
| 3 | A used to start | B was starting | <input checked="" type="radio"/> C started |
| 4 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> A would fly | B were flying | C had flown |
| 5 | A was taking | <input checked="" type="radio"/> B would take | C had taken |
| 6 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> A heard | B had heard | C was hearing |
| 7 | A wasted | <input checked="" type="radio"/> B was wasting | C used to waste |
| 8 | A happened | B had happened | <input checked="" type="radio"/> C was happening |
| 9 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> A had taught | B taught | C were teaching |
| 10 | A had took off | B would take off | <input checked="" type="radio"/> C took off |