EXERCISES

Past tenses

1 Write the verb in the Past Simple or the Past Continuous.

1 I _____ (cook) dinner when you called.

2 While we _____ (watch) TV, the power went out.

3 She _____ (fall) asleep while she was reading.

4 When I got home, my kids _____ (play) video games.

5 He _____ (break) his leg while he was skiing.

6 What _____ you _____ (do) at eight last night?

7 I _____ (see) an old friend while I was waiting for the bus.

8 It _____ (rain) when we left the restaurant.

9 The phone rang while I _____ (take) a shower.

10 We _____ (meet) when we were working at the same company.

2 Circle the correct word.

1 I _____ a shower when the doorbell rang.
was take / was taking / were taking

2 They _____ dinner when we arrived.
were having / was having / were have

3 While she was driving, she _____ a strange noise. heard / was hear / hearing

4 _____ you sleeping when I called?
Did / Were / Was

5 We _____ watching the game. We were at work. didn't / weren't / wasn't

6 What were you doing _____ the storm hit?
when / while / during

7 I met my husband _____ I was living in Chicago. during / while / for

8 My laptop _____ while I was working on a big project.
was crash / crashing / crashed

3 Write the verb in the Past Perfect.

1 When we got to the station, the train _____ (already / leave).

2 By the time I arrived, the meeting _____ (start).

3 She _____ (never / see) the ocean before that trip.

4 I couldn't get in because I _____ (lose) my keys.

5 They _____ (not / eat) all day, so they were starving.

6 By the time the doctor came, the pain _____ (go) away.

Past tenses

3 Write the verb in the Past Perfect.

7 He _____ (work) there for ten years before he quit.

8 _____ you ever _____ (try) sushi before that night?

9 I recognized her because we _____ (meet) before.

4 Complete the story. Use the Past Simple, Past Continuous or Past Perfect.

1 Last summer we _____ (fly) to Miami for a wedding.

2 When we _____ (land), it was raining hard.

3 Our hotel was nice, but they _____ (give) our room to someone else.

4 While we _____ (wait) at the front desk, the manager came over.

5 He said he _____ (already / find) us a better room.

6 The next day, while my husband _____ (swim), I read on the beach.

7 At the wedding we _____ (meet) people we _____ (not / see) for years.

8 By the time we _____ (get) home, we were exhausted.

5 Put the words in order to make sentences.

1 arrived / I / the / was / cooking / when / guests / .

2 were / at / yesterday / doing / what / eight / you / ?

3 I / when / left / train / had / there / got / already / the / .

4 to / been / before / I / never / had / York / that / trip / New / .

5 while / asleep / the / she / she / watching / fell / movie / was / .

6 was / I / phone / while / my / jogging / lost / I / .

Past tenses

5 **Put the words in order to make sentences.**

7 when / called / you / were / sleeping / I / ?

6 **Find and correct the mistake in each sentence.**

1 I was watch TV when you called.

2 They was sleeping when the alarm went off.

3 When I arrived, the movie has already started.

4 She had forgot her wallet at home.

5 What did you doing when the power went out?

6 He breaked his arm while he was skiing.

7 We had never meet before that party.

8 While I was drove to work, I saw an accident.

YOUR LIFE

7 **Write about a day you remember well.**

I WAS... WHEN...

I HAD NEVER... BEFORE.