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 use 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 Zita, but I was late and by the time I arrived she .... (past perfect)
LISTENING

Grammar

Past tenses

1 Complete the text with the correct alternatives. (Part 1 of this story is in Student's Book Unit 2.)

Meeting at the station (Part 2)

As I ran down the road I hardly (1) noticed / was noticing that it (2) snowed / was snowing, and when I got to the station I (3) kept / was keeping on running until I reached the platform where I hoped to catch the train Sophie was leaving on. But it (4) already went / had already gone.

Furious with myself for missing her, I was about to leave the station when suddenly there was an announcement saying that so much snow (5) fell / had fallen this side of Upton Junction, the next station, that the line was blocked in both directions. Which meant that Sophie's train (6) didn't go / wasn't going anywhere, at least for a while.

I remembered there (7) used to be / was being a bus to Upton, but when I asked about it at the information office they told me it no longer went there. It (8) was seeming / seemed there was no way I could catch up with Sophie, and I left the station. But right outside I spotted a row of bicycles for hire.

Fortunately I (9) 'd been / 'd been going to a cashpoint earlier and I had plenty of money on me, so I chose a bike and a few seconds later I (10) would pedal / was pedalling as fast as I could in the direction of Upton.
It was mostly uphill and the weather was very cold. By the time I was riding for 15 minutes my hands were frozen solid. There was both ice and snow on the road, and on one particularly sharp bend I completely lost control of the bike and crashed into a wall.

The front wheel was bent and I realised that I would have to continue on foot, but I could also see I cut my leg quite badly in the accident. Leaving the damaged bike behind, I slowly and painfully walked the last four miles, eventually arriving in the small town of Upton at around ten o'clock. Just then I heard the train approaching.

I ran as fast as I could down the brightly lit but empty street that was leading to the station, but seconds before I reached the platform the whistle blew and the train pulled out. With a feeling of sadness, I was watching its lights disappear into the darkness, and then stepped into the waiting room to get warm.

As I had done, a friendly voice to my left said ‘Hi’. It was Sophie. ‘I saw you from the train,’ she said, ‘so I was deciding to get off and wait for you. There’s another train due here at eleven. Shall we get that one together?’

2 Correct the mistakes in these sentences written by exam candidates, using suitable past tenses. In sentences 3 and 9 more than one answer is possible.

1 When I got dressed, I found I lost my wallet with more than 100,000 yen in it.
2 In the letter, Marta was asking him to come to Caracas at the weekend.
3 When emails didn’t exist, I was writing letters to friends.
4 I went downstairs but I didn’t realise that my husband started painting the walls.
5 The boss of the restaurant didn’t use to eat there, but that day was special.
6 When I climbed the cliff next to the beach just now I fell and I hurt my leg.
7 When she got off the bus, she wondered why Luisa decided to settle in that horrible town.
8 The plants in his garden were including vegetables and flowers.
9 After she had living in Singapore for three years, she had saved enough money to go to university.
10 When Julie came home, she saw that all her jewellery disappeared.