

Past tenses; Present and past habits

1 Circle the correct alternative.

- 1 He has been/was talking for ages. He can't have much more to say, can he?
- 2 I had/have just finished doing my homework when the fire alarm had gone/went off.
- 3 We were about to get on/was getting on the train when we realised we hadn't got our tickets.
- 4 I wasn't going to/wouldn't mention the homework, but our professor remembered and asked/was asking us to hand it in on our way out.
- 5 They had/had had hundreds of emails to read when they had got/got back from their holiday.

2 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs given.

I (1) (study) communication at university so far this year. Since I started, I (2) (attend) some very interesting lectures. One professor, in particular, makes the talks very entertaining. While she talks I take notes in my notebook. However, I have noticed a lot of students (3) (make) notes on their laptops. I have thought about buying a laptop myself but I'm not sure which model is best. I (4) (save up) enough to buy one and I (5) (do) that last month. Then a friend told me about a good deal on mobile phones and I (6) (buy) a new phone instead.

3 Find and correct the mistakes.

- 1 The band rehearsing at least three times week.
- 2 My father used to a scientific researcher, but now he's a public speaker.
- 3 They were always talked in the library, so the librarian has banned them for a month.
- 4 I will always checking my emails at least twice a day.
- 5 He's checking his social media accounts once a week.

4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of these verbs.

always/wave • not use/be • not use/communicate •
will usually meet • would go

- 1 She her hands around when she talks – it's a bit annoying.
- 2 My mum says she so assertive when she was my age.

- 3 They once a week to catch up on the latest news.
- 4 People by phone as much, so there was more face-to-face interaction.
- 5 When I was younger I to the park at the weekend and play by the lake for hours.

5 Complete the text with these phrases.

had been living • had imagined • hadn't realised •
used to hang out • 've been studying •
was going to go • were always telling •
will usually go out • would eat • would have

First-year nerves?

I (1) at this college for almost a year and a half now and I love it. At first, my main worry was whether I would make friends easily and that turned out to be the easy part.

I lived in college during my first year, which was a lot easier than I (2) I

(3) in the cafeteria and join anyone who I recognised. We had a communal seating area, too, and people (4) there in the evenings and chat.

Obviously, I got to know the other students on my course quite well because we studied together. Our professors (5) us to do as much research and reading as we could. As a result, a few of us (6) regular study nights.

Social and sporting clubs are another place to meet people. I signed up to four sports clubs in the first week but then I found that things clashed. One night, I (7) rowing when I realised I had a tennis match at the same time. In the end, I had to drop two clubs and focus on my favourites.

The biggest difficulty was money! I (8) that living within my budget would be so hard. I (9) with my parents before I started college, so I didn't have to pay for anything.

This year I'm sharing a flat with three friends. We study hard because we want to do well, but we (10) on a Friday or Saturday night to have some fun and relax.