

Past tenses; Present and past habits

1 Choose the best answer (a, b or c).

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

2 Complete with the correct form of these verbs.

attend • buy • do • make • save up • study

I (1) communication at university so far this year. Since I started, I (2) 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) notes on their laptops. I have thought about buying a laptop but I'm not sure which model is best. I (4) enough to buy one and I (5) that last month. Then a friend told me about a good deal on mobile phones and I (6) a new phone instead.

3 Find and correct the sentences with mistakes. Tick (✓) the correct sentences.

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

4 Rewrite the sentences using the words given. Do not change the meaning.

- She waves her hands around when she talks, and it's a bit annoying. ALWAYS
.....
and it's a bit annoying.

- My mum says she wasn't so assertive when she was my age. NOT USE TO
.....
when she was my age.
- They meet once a week to catch up on the latest news. WILL USUALLY
.....
to catch up on the latest news.
- People didn't communicate by phone as much, so there was more face-to-face interaction. NOT USE TO
.....
so there was more face-to-face interaction.
- When I was younger I went to the park at the weekend and played by the lake for hours. WOULD
.....
by the lake for hours.

5 Complete with the correct form of these verbs.

always tell • eat • go • hang out • have • imagine • live • not realise • study • usually go out

First-year nerves?

Worried about starting college or university? Nervous about making friends? Don't be, it's easier than you think.

I (1) at this college for over a year 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.