



## Past tenses; Present and past habits

## 1 Circle the correct alternative.

- He has been/was talking for ages. He can't have much more to say, can he?
- I had/have just finished doing my homework when the fire alarm had gone/went off.
- We were about to get on/was getting on the train when we realised we hadn't got our tickets.
- 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.
- 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 tablets. I have thought about buying a tablet 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.

- The band rehearsing at least three times week.
- My father used to 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's checking his Facebook account once a week.

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

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

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

- They ..... once a week to catch up on the latest news.
- People ..... by phone as much so there was more face-to-face interaction.
- 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.

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

## 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.