

GRAMMAR

NARRATIVE TENSES

1 A Underline the correct alternative.

- One day the old man *fished/was fishing* as usual when he *saw/was seeing* something shiny in the water.
- In 1995 Ella *was teaching/taught* in the Sudan and *became/had become* well known locally as the 'Canadian lady'.
- I *'d known/'d been knowing* Javier for many years and when I *read/was reading* he was in prison I knew there must be a mistake.
- He *noticed/was noticing* that someone *had left/had been leaving* a briefcase on the park bench.
- The Prince *had been searching/was searching* in the forest for over ten hours and *began/was beginning* to lose hope.
- Ella *had looked/had been looking* through old photo albums all morning when she *heard/was hearing* a knock on the door, and that moment inspired the lyrics to her greatest hit.
- By that evening the children *were/had been* exhausted and hungry because they *'d walked/'d been walking* in the forest all day with nothing to eat.
- We *'d driven/'d been driving* 30 km when the engine suddenly stopped; someone *took/had taken* most of the petrol out of the car, someone who wanted us dead.

B Which of the sentences above do you think come from: a detective story (D), a traditional folk tale (F) or a biography of someone's life (B)?

2 Complete the sentences with the past perfect simple or the past perfect continuous form of the verbs in brackets. If both are possible, use the past perfect continuous.

- In the morning everything was white because it _____ (snow) all night.
- 'How long _____ (the victim/come) to this club?' Logan asked.
- My brother was furious because I _____ (break) his MP3 player.
- How much money _____ (you/make) by the time you were twenty?
- I had a sore throat because I _____ (sing) all evening.
- _____ (she/ever/do) anything like that before?
- They _____ (not plan) to move, but a flat became available suddenly.
- The computer _____ (make) strange noises since the installation of the new software.

3 A Complete the news story with the correct form of the verbs in the box. There may be more than one possibility.

fail rush begin bring feel realise
sit seem overhear explain climb
use change tell

SPIDER-MAN SAVES THE DAY



An eight-year-old boy has been rescued by an enterprising Bangkok firefighter.

The boy from Thailand is autistic* and ¹ _____ very nervous before his first day of school but initially he ² _____ to be OK.

However, during the first lesson his teacher ³ _____ something to the class when she ⁴ _____ that the boy ⁵ _____ out of the window. 'He ⁶ _____ just outside the window with his legs swinging over the edge.'

The rescue services were called in when the boy's mother ⁷ _____ (also) to get the boy down. Everyone

⁸ _____ to run out of ideas when one of the firefighters, Somchai Yoosabai, ⁹ _____ the boy's mother talking about her son's love of superheroes.

The quick-thinking fireman ¹⁰ _____ back to the fire station and ¹¹ _____ into his Spider-Man costume. (Until then, Mr Somchai ¹² _____ the costume to make school fire drills more interesting.)

'I ¹³ _____ him, "Spider-Man is here to rescue you. No monsters are going to attack you."' The sight ¹⁴ _____ a smile to the youngster's face and he immediately walked into his rescuer's arms.

*A person who is autistic has a learning disability; it's difficult for them to communicate and form relationships.

B **3.1** Listen to the news story above. For each verb 1–14 underline the main stressed syllable and write any weak forms: (/ə/ or /ɪ/).

C Listen again and read the news story at the same time as the speaker. Pay attention to the stress and weak forms in the verbs.

LISTENING

4 A 3.2 According to research, there are only seven types of stories or 'plots'. Match plots 1–7 with descriptions a)–g). Then listen and check your ideas.

- 1 overcoming the monster
- 2 rags to riches
- 3 the quest
- 4 voyage and return
- 5 comedy
- 6 tragedy
- 7 rebirth

- a) The hero/heroine goes on a long, dangerous journey to achieve a goal.
- b) A hero/heroine defeats a terrifying beast and saves others or wins a reward.
- c) After misunderstandings and confusion, everything ends happily. It doesn't have to be funny but it often is.
- d) A person leaves home and goes to a strange place. After adventures, he/she comes back.
- e) Someone is in a terrible situation and then returns to happiness or is freed, often by the power of love.
- f) An ordinary person discovers special talents or beauty in himself/herself and often gains great wealth.
- g) A character follows a course of action which destroys him/her. This story always has a bad ending.

B Listen again. Which plot are the following connected to?

- 1 computer games _____
- 2 Superman _____
- 3 Romeo and Juliet _____
- 4 detective stories _____
- 5 humour _____
- 6 *Lost* _____
- 7 losing money _____

VOCABULARY

SAYINGS

5 Complete the sayings. Use the prompts to help you.

- 1 We may fail but we won't know unless we try.
As they say, 'nothing / venture / gain'.

- 2 Sue lost her job recently but *cloud / silver / lining* and now she's got a better one.

- 3 Li always gave money to a beggar and one day the beggar saved him from a mugger. It's certainly true that *go / around / come / around*.

- 4 I'm learning to bargain in markets.
I've decided, *Rome / do / Romans / do*.

- 5 No more second-hand computers for me – this one keeps breaking down. *Once / bite / twice / shy*.

WRITING

A STORY

6 A Read the story. Which saying 1–3 does the story illustrate?

- 1 Every cloud has a silver lining.
- 2 What goes around comes around.
- 3 Once bitten twice shy.

Once, as a lion was sleeping, a mouse passed by and ¹_____ woke him up; ²_____ the lion was angry and wanted to eat the mouse. The mouse ³_____ said she was very sorry and promised to help the lion in the future. The lion laughed ⁴_____ at this, but let her go because she had made him laugh.

Months later, the mouse ⁵_____ got her chance to help the lion when he was tied to a tree by some hunters. When the lion roared, ⁶_____ the mouse was nearby and came running. She tried to eat through the rope; it was very thick, but ⁷_____ she ate through it ⁸_____ and freed the lion. And the moral of the story is ...



B Complete the story in Exercise 6A with adverbs from the box or adverbs of your own.

stupidly fortunately naturally eventually
immediately finally completely loudly

C Use the notes below to write the story (80–100 words). Use at least three adverbs from Exercise 6B to make your story more interesting.

The crow and the water pot: thirsty crow – find – water pot – water at the bottom – can't reach; at first – stare at pot – try to think what to do; clever plan – drop – small stones – one by one – water rise – top – crow drink; moral: 'Necessity is the mother of invention.'



VOCABULARY

ADJECTIVES FOR STORIES

1 Put the letters in bold in the correct order to make adjectives. The first letter is underlined.

- The film ending was very **rdaicmta** dramatic – I could hardly watch it.
- That play was absolutely **hrailoisu** _____ . I nearly cried with laughing.
- The life of Gandhi is very **isnrinigp** _____ .
- I found that poem about war very **tpoiangn** _____ .
- Jane is very **tnnseei** _____ – she's very focused when she speaks to you.
- Brian finished his 3,000 word film review last night – that's **kareblmear** _____ !
- I really liked the end of the film, the special effects were **dibleeinrc** _____ .
- The story of the children was very **gimonv** _____ – it nearly made me cry.

GRAMMAR

I WISH, IF ONLY

2 A Complete the survey results with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. In some sentences you need to make the verb negative.

no regrets

HOME

NEWS

SURVEY

SEARCH

Regrets, we've had a few ...

A survey of over-30s suggests that many people share the same regrets about the past. Some of the results are unsurprising, but others are unexpected. The top regrets are:

- One in ten people wishes they ¹ _____ (work) abroad at some stage in their life.
- Just under a quarter of people wish they ² _____ (save) more money in their twenties.
- A quarter of people wish they ³ _____ (begin) smoking.
- Nearly a third of people wish they ⁴ _____ (pay) more attention at school.
- One in three people wishes that they ⁵ _____ (get married) so young.
- Many people wish they ⁶ _____ (leave) full-time education so early and regret that they didn't go to university.
- Almost a half of people wish they ⁷ _____ (learn) a musical instrument.
- The top regret of all? Nearly half of people wish they ⁸ _____ (travel) more when they were younger.

B Tick the items you also regret.

3 A  3.3 Listen and underline the alternative you hear.

- I wish I *had*/*'d had* more money.
- I wish I *'d*/*you'd* worked harder at school.
- I wish it *would stop*/*it had stopped* raining.
- If only we *'ve*/*'d* told her.
- If only we *went*/*'d gone* to the party.
- If only you *'d*/*hadn't* turned it off.

B Listen again and repeat. Pay attention to the stress and the contractions: *'d* /*'d*/ and *hadn't* /*'hædnt*/.

4 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Use between two and five words including the word given.

- She can't stand the way the press keep asking her about her private life.
STOP
She wishes the press _____ about her private life.
- I'd prefer to be at home right now; it's too cold here.
HOME
I wish _____ right now; it's too cold here.
- It's terrible – we owe so much money!
ONLY
If _____ so much money.
- They didn't tell him the cost before he started the treatment.
TOLD
If _____ him the cost of the treatment before he started it.
- I hate it when you interrupt me.
ME
I wish _____.
- That's a great idea! Why didn't I think of it?
WISH
I _____ of that idea.
- Wayne wishes he'd kept his temper.
KEPT
If only Wayne _____ his temper.
- I can't see anything from here.
SEE
If only _____ from here.
- Unfortunately, we don't have enough time.
MORE
If _____ time.
- You just didn't listen to me!
LISTENED
I wish _____ to me!

READING

5 A Read the article and answer the questions.

- 1 What is the challenge each person faces?
- 2 How do they manage in their professions?

Our series on people who have achieved success in their field in the face of extraordinary challenges

For more than thirty years, soprano **Janine Roebuck** has delighted audiences with her singing in opera and musical theatre. For most of that time she has kept a closely guarded secret: she is profoundly deaf.

Janine comes from a family with hereditary deafness. At first she thought she had escaped the disability but at university she was diagnosed with progressive loss of hearing and was advised to give up her dream of a singing career. However, Janine decided to hide the truth from fellow musicians. Janine believed that she would not be employed as a singer if people knew about her disability because they would see it as a major problem. So she developed coping strategies to enable her to perform. When she sang with another person, she watched their breathing so that she could come in at the right time. She felt vibrations from the music and occasionally she asked her fellow performers to tap the beat on her back.

Now Janine has decided to reveal the truth. Instead of being terrified of being found out, the singer is proud of her achievements and is using her story as an example to encourage other people with disabilities. As the word about Janine's deafness spreads, responses include astonishment and admiration. One conductor turned to the orchestra after she sang and told them she was deaf. Their applause delighted her.

If you listen to **Dean Du Plessis** on the radio you will hear an articulate sports commentator with a comprehensive knowledge of cricket. It's incredible then to realise that Zimbabwean Du Plessis has never actually seen a game because he has been blind from birth.



How does he do it? He says his heightened sense of hearing compensates for his lack of sight. He uses microphones placed around the ground to help. Dean listens to the sound of the players during the game. He can tell who is who by the sound they make when they hit a ball or run across the pitch. Each player runs differently, for example, some players run in a particular way or use more effort than others. He also listens to the sounds when the bat strikes the ball, as well as the crowd.

Born near Harare, Zimbabwe, Du Plessis was lucky enough to attend the famous Worcester School for the Blind in South Africa. At school, much to the annoyance of his schoolmates, he would stay up late in the evening and do commentaries alongside the radio. One evening a teacher overheard him commentating and told him to take it up as a profession because he was exceptionally good at it.

In 2001 Dean tried out with the microphone at Harare Sports Club and since then has never looked back. His passion and knowledge make him enormously popular with listeners and leave visiting teams and his co-commentators awestruck.

B Who do you think said the following: Janine (J) or Dean (D)?

- 1 It was a terrible blow to me.
- 2 It can be a sharp crack or a quieter sound.
- 3 Until then I thought I was one of the lucky ones.
- 4 Your other senses become more acute.
- 5 I refused to give up.
- 6 Why now? Well, with age you don't really care so much.

C Try to complete the collocations below. Then read the text again to check your ideas.

- 1 a _____ secret
= a well-kept secret
- 2 _____ deaf
= completely deaf
- 3 to _____ a strategy
= to invent and improve on a technique
- 4 to _____ the truth
= to tell the truth after hiding it
- 5 a _____ knowledge
= a complete knowledge
- 6 a _____ sense of hearing
= increased sense of hearing

VOCABULARY PLUS

MULTI-WORD VERBS

6 A Complete the questions in the interview by adding *for*, *out*, *on*, *away*, *by* or *up*.

A: So you were brought ¹ _____ by the ocean?

B: Yes, when I was growing ² _____ I practically lived underwater.

A: And when you started taking photos, you picked it ³ _____ quickly?

B: Yeah, I loved it and I was good at it. I dropped ⁴ _____ of college and went ⁵ _____ to look for a job that combined my two great loves.

A: But at first you were unsuccessful at getting a job with the local companies.

B: That's right and as time went ⁶ _____ I began to think I'd never get a job. Then I remembered a photographer I'd always looked ⁷ _____ to. He was working at Global at that time.

A: Why did you take ⁸ _____ such a key position with Global then?

B: I didn't, not at first. I was only an assistant on a documentary.

A: So did your boss resign from his position?

B: No. He was badly injured by a shark, so badly that he passed ⁹ _____. Shocking stuff.

A: Oh, I'm sorry.

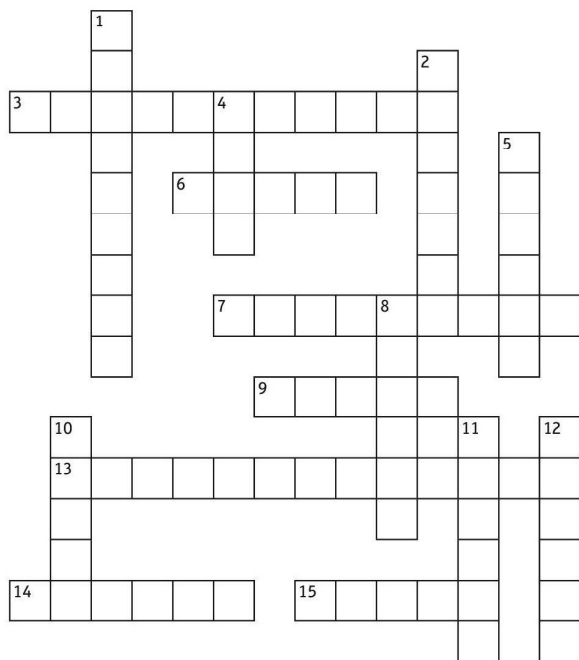
B: That's OK. Because I really admired him I tried to bring all the things he stood ¹⁰ _____ into my work: honesty, truth and realism. Now I get all the big films.

B What is person B's job?

VOCABULARY

READING GENRES

1 Complete the crossword.



Across

- 3 A best-selling film.
- 6 A webpage where people take part in online discussions is a website _____.
- 7 This website has facts and information about many different subjects.
- 9 A written story about fictional characters.
- 13 A book that someone writes about their own life.
- 14 A book that tells you how to do something, especially how to use a machine.
- 15 A short message on a social media website.

Down

- 1 The story someone writes about someone else's life.
- 2 A piece of writing about a particular subject is an online _____.
- 4 A type of website containing information or opinions from a particular person or about a particular subject. New information or comments are added regularly.
- 5 A _____ magazine is about the behaviour and private lives of famous people.
- 8 Poems in general.
- 10 Japanese comics, often action-adventure, which are read by all ages.
- 11 The latest online news on an event or person is a social media _____.
- 12 The words of a song.

FUNCTION

EXPRESSING LIKES AND DISLIKES

2 A Complete B's part in each conversation.

- 1 **A:** What did you think of the book?
B: ¹Well, / not / big fan / travel books

A: Oh, why's that?

B: ²just / not / get into / all the description

- 2 **A:** I hear Nick's enjoying his new school.

B: ³Yes, what / he / love / about it / be / that they do / lot of sport

A: I didn't know he liked sport.

B: ⁴Oh, yeah. / He / be / really into football / moment

- 3 **A:** Why don't you like barbecues?

B: ⁵not / stand / when the meat / not / cooked properly

B ▶ 3.4 Listen and check your answers.

C ▶ 3.5 Listen and underline between two and five main stresses in B's part. Listen again and say B's part at the same time as the recording.

LEARN TO

SUMMARISE A PLOT

3 Complete the plot summary with the correct form of the verbs in the box.

wait	fall (x2)	deliver	die	have	work
earn	meet (x2)	kick out (x2)			

As is true of many of his stories, there is an autobiographical element, with the life of the main character, Irek, bearing many resemblances to that of the author, André Hartowicz. In real life, Hartowicz, a political activist, ¹_____ of university for organising protests against the administration. In the novel, the main character ²_____ of university for signing a letter criticising the examination system. Hartowicz, before he became famous, ³_____ as a waiter to pay his rent; in the story, Irek ⁴_____ money as a postman.

Hartowicz ⁵_____ his first wife at a restaurant; she ⁶_____ dinner with her husband while Hartowicz ⁷_____ on tables and they ⁸_____ in love at first sight. In the story, however, Irek ⁹_____ his wife-to-be when he ¹⁰_____ a letter to her informing her that her husband ¹¹_____ in battle. They too ¹²_____ in love at first sight.