

Grammar & Language Practice: Telling stories using the past simple

В 1-м задании слушатели «как-бы не понимают», что перед ними все пройденные на уровне A1 глаголы. Их задача догадаться, к какой истории могут относиться группы. Но они эти глаголы проговаривают и вспоминают.

1A Analyse the groups of verbs in the past simple below and say which of them refer to stories about:
a) work b) a relationship c) a holiday d) shopping e) sightseeing f) eating out g) an expedition h) a party

1. met; saw; liked; didn't like; ignored; invited; dreamt; went out; got married; found; exchanged; texted; called; talked; gave; moved in; thought; felt; was
2. arrived; flew; booked; bought; packed up; took; stayed; enjoyed; spent; didn't send; walked; relaxed; didn't go
3. discovered; explored; started; went; reached; found; studied; dealt with; returned; followed; tracked; wrote; inspired; could; didn't know; planned
4. ate; drank; tried; booked; sat; listened to; enjoyed; spent; paid; came; brought; served; left; waited; didn't order
5. tried on; chose; saw; asked; paid; returned; liked; didn't like; wanted; brought; looked; came
6. played; invited; organised; cleaned; decorated; bought; cooked; listened to; came; saw; were; brought; greeted; didn't eat; drank; put on
7. developed; started; took part in; dealt with; wasn't; spoke; asked; tried; found out; called; made; did; wrote; knew; didn't have
8. heard; read; told; wanted; decided; booked; came; didn't know; were; saw; didn't take; didn't buy; spend; enjoyed; learnt

Во 2-м задании глаголы одной группы надо построить в логическом порядке, чтобы получилась история с небольшими «добавками».

1B Put the verbs from 1A in the correct order and add some other words to make up a story.

E.g. *Going to a concert* - 'X', a popular rock band came to our town. I read about it on the Internet. I booked four tickets and invited my friends to join me. The concert took place at 'X' hall. We arrived twenty minutes before the concert began. Our seats weren't very good – we sat far from the stage, but we could hear the music very well – it was really loud! We liked the concert though. They performed some famous songs of the 1980s and a lot of new ones. The lead singer and the guitarist were amazing! After the concert, we went to the music stall downstairs and bought some CDs.

В 3-м задании добавляются связки, которые носители сами употребляют и ждут от нас.

2 a) Read the stories. Use proper past forms of the verbs in brackets.

b) Fill in the gaps with the words given before each text.



A

but (x2)

and (x2)

because (x2)

so (x2)

Diana and Charles (meet) on a dating website _____ (fall) for each other straightaway. First, they (text) each other, then, they (start) talking on Skype. They soon (find) out that they (have) a lot in common, _____, they (decide) to meet face to face. Charles (invite) Diana to a club, _____ she (dislike) the place as soon as they (get) in, _____ it (be) so noisy that you (cannot) hear yourself think! The next day, they (go) for a walk and (have) a nice talk. After that, they (start) going out _____ eventually (move) in together. They (agree) to share the housework, _____ soon they (start) to argue, _____ Diana (not like) cooking and Charles (hate) washing up, Diana (not want) to do the cleaning once a week and Charles (refuse) to go shopping for food. _____, three months later, they (split) up.

B

| | | | | | |
|---------|------|-----|--------------|---------|-------|
| finally | then | ago | the next day | at last | first |
|---------|------|-----|--------------|---------|-------|

I (buy) a microwave five years _____ from an Internet shop. _____, I had (=needed) to wait two weeks before it (arrive). _____, when I (switch) it on, it (start) making a strange noise. I (not use) it that day, thinking that it (need) a rest after a long journey from somewhere to my home. _____, I (try) to warm some food in it, but nothing happened – the food (stay) cold. I (write) and (phone) the shop, but they (not answer). _____, I reached the manager, who (say) that they (cannot) take the microwave back, because it (be) an old model and I (have) to return it to the producer. The producer (be) a factory in another country! I (call) a repairman, but he (fail) to make it work. _____, I just (throw) the microwave away.

В 4-м задании заполняется таблица связей, при этом тексты прочитываются еще раз.

3A In Text **A**, underline the linkers (e.g. first, then, three months later, etc). Complete the table, using both texts.

| <i>Conjunctions</i> | <i>Time markers</i> | <i>Linkers</i> |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| and but as soon as | In 2008 two days after the arrival three weeks later the day before | first in the beginning/end after that later eventually soon |

После такой подготовки слушатели достаточно легко составляют истории с приличным количеством глаголов.

3B Make up stories about something that happened to you or somebody in the past. Use as many linkers as you can. Start with making a plan. Check for mistakes.

3C Read out or tell your story.