

# 67 Telling a story

The past continuous, past simple, and past perfect are often used together to describe past events in detail. This is especially helpful for telling stories.

 **New language** Narrative tenses

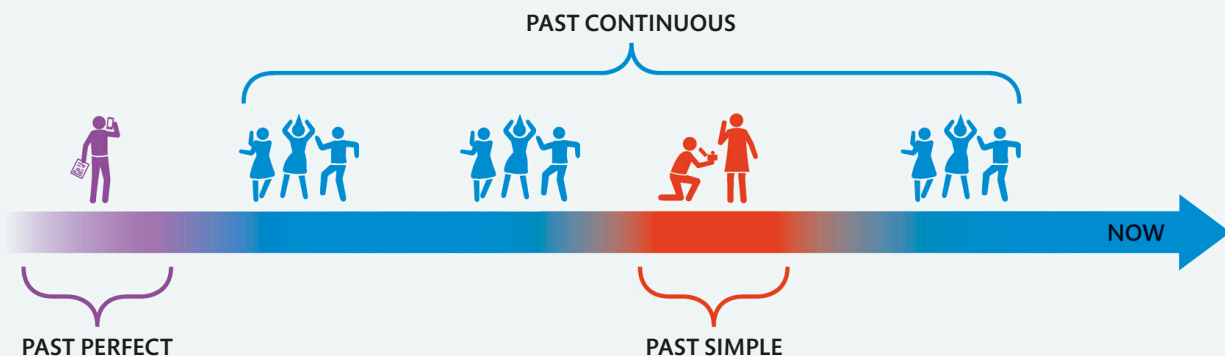
**Aa Vocabulary** Idioms for storytelling

 **New skill** Using different past tenses

## 67.1 KEY LANGUAGE NARRATIVE TENSES

The past continuous is used to set the scene. The past simple describes actions in the story. The past perfect is used to talk about things that happened before the beginning of the story.

A crowd of people **were celebrating** the New Year when one of the young men **kneeled down** in front of his girlfriend and **asked** her to marry him. He **had planned** everything down to the last detail.



## 67.2 FILL IN THE GAPS BY PUTTING THE VERBS IN THE CORRECT TENSES

It was raining (rain) heavily, so he rushed (rush) to the train station.

- Before I \_\_\_\_\_ (start) the trip, I \_\_\_\_\_ (plan) which route I would take.
- Lauren \_\_\_\_\_ (cross) the road when she \_\_\_\_\_ (see) the robber inside the bank.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ always \_\_\_\_\_ (want) to visit Brazil, and I finally \_\_\_\_\_ (go) there last year.
- Jason \_\_\_\_\_ (read) a book in the park when a wasp \_\_\_\_\_ (sting) him.










## 67.3 FILL IN THE GAPS USING THE PHRASES IN THE PANEL



It was a stormy night on Station Road. The rain was falling heavily.

- 1  Inside her bedroom, Bella \_\_\_\_\_ hard for an exam.
- 2  She \_\_\_\_\_ nervous. The storm outside made it difficult to concentrate.
- 3  Raindrops \_\_\_\_\_ gently down the glass. She watched them in silence.
- 4  She \_\_\_\_\_ as she watched the raindrops. She began to relax.
- 5  Fifteen minutes later, the storm ended. Bella \_\_\_\_\_ so calm.

breathed deeply    had never felt    ~~was falling~~    was feeling    was studying    were sliding



## 67.4 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS



Jonah tells Ben how he proposed to his girlfriend.

Ben heard a rumor that Jonah was engaged.

True ☒ False ☐

- 1 Lizzie didn't want to get married.  
True ☐ False ☐
- 2 Jonah proposed to Lizzie during their vacation.  
True ☐ False ☐
- 3 Jonah wanted his proposal to be unusual.  
True ☐ False ☐
- 4 Jonah bought a special plate after he proposed.  
True ☐ False ☐
- 5 Jonah almost got too nervous to propose.  
True ☐ False ☐
- 6 Ben thinks Lizzie really loves Jonah.  
True ☐ False ☐

## 67 CHECKLIST



Narrative tenses ☐

Aa Idioms for storytelling ☐



Using different past tenses ☐