

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

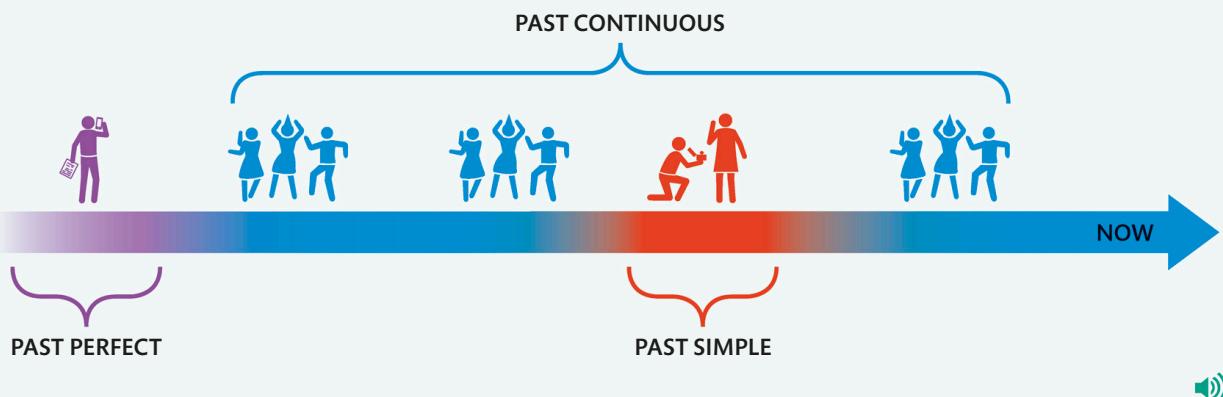
 **Aa Vocabulary** Idioms for storytelling

 **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.

1 Before I started (start) the trip, I planned (plan) which route I would take.

2 Lauren crossed (cross) the road when she saw (see) the robber inside the bank.

3 I have always (want) to visit Brazil, and I finally went (go) there last year.

4 Jason was reading (read) a book in the park when a wasp stung (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

Idioms for storytelling

Using different past tenses