

# Grammar

## 1 Past tenses

► Grammar reference, Student's Book, page 204

**A** Fill the gaps in this story with a verb from the box below. Use an appropriate past tense and make any other changes that are necessary.

ask	be	begin	drive	drive off
get in	give	have	leave	make
notice	open	pick up	rain	reach
realize	see	shake	try	wait

### The Mysterious Hitchhiker

A young woman (1) \_\_\_\_\_ through lonely countryside. It (2) \_\_\_\_\_ heavily and it (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to get dark. Suddenly she (4) \_\_\_\_\_ an old woman by the side of the road, holding her hand out as if she wanted a lift. 'I can't leave her out in this weather,' the young woman said to herself. So she stopped the car and (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the door. 'Do you want a lift?' she (6) \_\_\_\_\_. The old woman nodded and (7) \_\_\_\_\_.

As she (8) \_\_\_\_\_ herself comfortable, the young woman asked her, '(9) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ long?' The old woman (10) \_\_\_\_\_ her head. 'You were lucky then,' the young woman commented, wondering why the old woman never spoke. She (11) \_\_\_\_\_ again. 'Nasty weather for the time of year,' she continued. The old woman nodded in agreement. No matter what the young woman said the hitchhiker (12) \_\_\_\_\_ no answer except for a nod or a shake of the head.

All of a sudden, the young woman (13) \_\_\_\_\_ that her passenger's hands were very large and hairy. With a shock she (14) \_\_\_\_\_ that the hitchhiker wasn't an old woman at all but a man dressed up as an old woman. She braked suddenly. 'I can't see out of the rear window,' she explained. 'Would you mind cleaning it for me?' The hitchhiker nodded and opened the car door. As soon as the hitchhiker (15) \_\_\_\_\_ out of the car, the terrified woman (16) \_\_\_\_\_ at top speed.

When she (17) \_\_\_\_\_ the next village she stopped. She noticed that the hitchhiker (18) \_\_\_\_\_ a handbag behind. She (19) \_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_ and opened it. Inside the bag was a gun. She (20) \_\_\_\_\_ a narrow escape!

**B** Put the verbs in brackets in these sentences into an appropriate past tense. Choose from past simple, past continuous, present perfect simple, present perfect continuous or past perfect simple. Make any other changes that are necessary. Sometimes there is more than one possible answer.

- Jan \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to live in Italy in 1992. She \_\_\_\_\_ (not be) in the country long before she \_\_\_\_\_ (fall) in love and \_\_\_\_\_ (get married).
- '\_\_\_\_\_ (not finish) your homework yet Alex? You \_\_\_\_\_ (do) it for ages.' 'I \_\_\_\_\_ (do) most of it but I'm stuck on the last bit.'
- I know I \_\_\_\_\_ (say) I'd phone you as soon as I \_\_\_\_\_ (get back) but I \_\_\_\_\_ (not can) remember where I \_\_\_\_\_ (write down) your new number.
- It's typical, isn't it! I \_\_\_\_\_ just \_\_\_\_\_ (put) shampoo on my hair when the phone \_\_\_\_\_ (ring). I \_\_\_\_\_ (think) it might be important so I \_\_\_\_\_ (rush) downstairs. Needless to say, it \_\_\_\_\_ (stop) ringing before I \_\_\_\_\_ (reach) it.
- 'I'm terribly sorry but I \_\_\_\_\_ (forget) your name.'
- Police say that the man they wish to question \_\_\_\_\_ (have) long hair and \_\_\_\_\_ (wear) a denim jacket and jeans. He \_\_\_\_\_ (drive off) in a stolen car.
- Julie \_\_\_\_\_ just \_\_\_\_\_ (cover) herself in sun tan lotion when the sun \_\_\_\_\_ (go) behind a large black cloud.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ (think) of calling Sam and \_\_\_\_\_ just \_\_\_\_\_ (pick up) my address book to look up her number when the phone \_\_\_\_\_ (start) ringing. It \_\_\_\_\_ (be) her!
- 'Is anything the matter?' 'No. I \_\_\_\_\_ (peel) onions. Onions always make me cry.'
- I \_\_\_\_\_ (sit) on the bus on my way to work when I \_\_\_\_\_ (realize; leave) something cooking on the stove.