

Exercises

- 5.1** The events mentioned in the magazine article are listed below. Write the order in which the events are mentioned and then the order in which they occurred (or were thought to occur). Compare the two lists and consider why the past perfect (in italics) was used. **A & B**

How I bought my dream house

When I first saw the old house I *had just moved* to the area. It *had been* empty for about a year and was beginning to need some repairs, but the house was exactly what I wanted. But by the time I *had put together* enough money I learnt that a property developer *had bought* it and planned to turn it into a hotel. Six months later I *had nearly given up* hope of finding anywhere to live in the village when I heard that the house was for sale again. The property developer *had decided* to invest his money in a new housing development on the edge of the village. I bought the house immediately and I've lived there happily ever since.



Carla Bridges

events	order events are mentioned in text	order of events
I moved ...	2	2
I learnt ...		
The property developer decided ...		
I heard ...		
I first saw the old house		1
A property developer bought it	1	
I nearly gave up...		
I put together enough money...		
It was empty		

- 5.2** Underline the correct options. In some cases only one is correct, and in others both are correct. **C & D**

- As Jonas was introduced to Mrs Lopez, he realised that he *had met* / *met* her before.
- During the previous week, I *had been* / *went* to the gym every evening.
- He denied that he *had taken* / *took* the money from the office.
- I thought it was the best film I *had seen* / *saw* in my life.
- The boy told me that he *had lost* / *lost* his train ticket and didn't know how he would get home.
- At the conference, scientists reported that they *had found* / *found* a cure for malaria.
- The teacher guessed that some of the children *had cheated* / *cheated* in the exam.
- She said that she *had made up* / *made up* her mind who to vote for, and that I couldn't persuade her to change.
- Thomas explained that he *had gone* / *went* home early because he felt ill.
- When I asked Maria about Jakub, she admitted that she *hadn't heard* / *didn't hear* from him for ages.
- The waiter took my plate away before I *had finished* / *finished* eating.
- Julia said she didn't want any dinner. Apparently, she *had eaten* / *ate* already.

- 5.3** Expand these sets of notes using the past perfect to begin each sentence. **E**

I / expect / operation / painful + / hope / leave / by nine
 He / not mean / insult / her Lara / not intend / become / dentist
 I / not think of / cook rabbit

- I had hoped to leave by nine, but I overslept and missed the train.
-; she always wanted to be a vet.
-, but I didn't feel a thing.
-, until Andrei told me how tasty it was.
-, but Daria was very offended.