

Exercises

7.1 Complete each pair of sentences using one verb from the box. Use the past perfect continuous if possible; if not, use the past perfect. **A**

apply carry fly work

- 1 a She only for the company for a couple of months, so I was surprised to hear that she'd left.
- b She finally her way up from trainee to a management position, and she celebrated her promotion with a big party.
- 2 a The avalanche them 500 metres down the mountain but no one was hurt.
- b She took a bottle from the bag she all the way from home.
- 3 a We for visas early, but still hadn't got them by the week before the holiday.
- b She for jobs, without success, since leaving university.
- 4 a He all the way from New York to be at yesterday's meeting.
- b When the plane was diverted, shortly after take-off, it from London to Frankfurt.

7.2 Use the past perfect continuous form of the verb in brackets if appropriate; if not, use the past perfect. **B-D**

- 1 Mrs Bishop to have children for years, and only became pregnant at the age of 45. (*try*)
- 2 This was the first time we had been to the castle, even though we Prague a few times before. (*visit*)
- 3 She bought her first watch at the age of eight. It two pounds. (*cost*)
- 4 Emma Willems novels for ten years before she published her first book. (*write*)
- 5 For some time Daniel about passing the exams and eventually decided to change the course he was taking. (*worry*)
- 6 My teacher was really annoyed with me. It was the third time I late for school that week. (*arrive*)
- 7 I always it would be easy to get a job, and was disappointed to be rejected. (*believe*)
- 8 We about Sarah when, to our amazement, she walked through the door. (*talk*)

In which one of the sentences where you have used the past perfect continuous do you think the past continuous is more likely? **C**

7.3 Study this conversation extract. If the italicised verbs are correct, write ✓. If they are wrong, correct them using either the past perfect (active or passive) or past perfect continuous. **A-E**

A: How was your weekend?

B: Not great, actually. I (1) *'d really been looking* forward to a relaxing couple of days. But early on Saturday morning Mum phoned to say that Dad (2) *had been taking* ill.

A: Oh, no! What (3) *had happened*?

B: She (4) *had just been hearing* that he (5) *had been flown* by helicopter to hospital in Edinburgh from a village called Contin where he (6) *had fished* with my Uncle Mark.

A: And is he okay? What's wrong with him?

B: Well, Uncle Mark said that Dad (7) *had been complaining* of a bad headache most of yesterday, but he (8) *hadn't been wanting* to go back to the hotel and spoil the day. But then in the evening, just as they (9) *had stopped* fishing for the day, he (10) *had been collapsing*...