

WHAT IS YOUR EARLIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY?

NARRATIVE TENSES



THE MOST COMMON EARLIEST MEMORIES FROM CHILDHOOD

What is your earliest/brightest childhood memory?

Look through the list below. These are the most common memories from childhood. Can you relate to any? Tell about it.



- Christmas dinner
- Going to the beach
- Playing in the park
- Getting pocket money
- Learning to ride a bike
- Getting a pet
- Building sandcastles
- Climbing a tree
- School lunches
- Your first crush
- Blowing out the candles on a birthday cake
- Sleepovers at a friend's house
- Family holidays abroad
- Being read a bedtime story
- Winning an award
- Your first time on a plane
- Painting / arts and crafts
- Jumping in puddles
- Finding a rope swing in the woods
- Buying a school uniform
- Going to theme parks
- Playing with leaves
- Going to your grandparent's house
- First time eating pizza
- Going to the pool
- School sports days
- First day of primary school

LET'S TALK

Children can be scared of many things, real or imagined. Were you frightened by anything as a child?

What is the most irritating thing that children do?

Did you have a favorite toy or toy series? What was it?

Your childhood days are the best days of your life. Do you agree?

Children have powerful imaginations. Can you recall any imaginary games or friends from early childhood?



WHAT IS YOUR EARLIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY?

You are going to watch a video about earliest childhood memories. Look at the photos and words below.

Can you guess what kind of memories do these people have?



California

work

mum



baby brother

tummy time

belly



Halloween

knee

bleeding



day care

chicken nuggets

screaming



WHAT IS YOUR EARLIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY?

Watch the video and check if you were right. If not, what kind of memories did they tell about? What other childhood memories did the people from the video share?



ANSWERS

You are going to watch a video about earliest childhood memories. Look at the photos and words below.

Can you guess what kind of memories do these people have?



It was at her childhood house in California. Her mum was going to work and she was really upset about it.



He had a new baby brother. He saw him doing tummy time and remembered doing it as well. It's when you lay the baby on the tummy.



It was a Halloween night. She was with her neighbours. A kid dropped a bottle and it fell over her knee and she was bleeding.



She was in day care. They were having chicken nuggets and she didn't want them. She was screaming, so her mum, who was working there, could hear her. But she didn't.

LET'S TALK

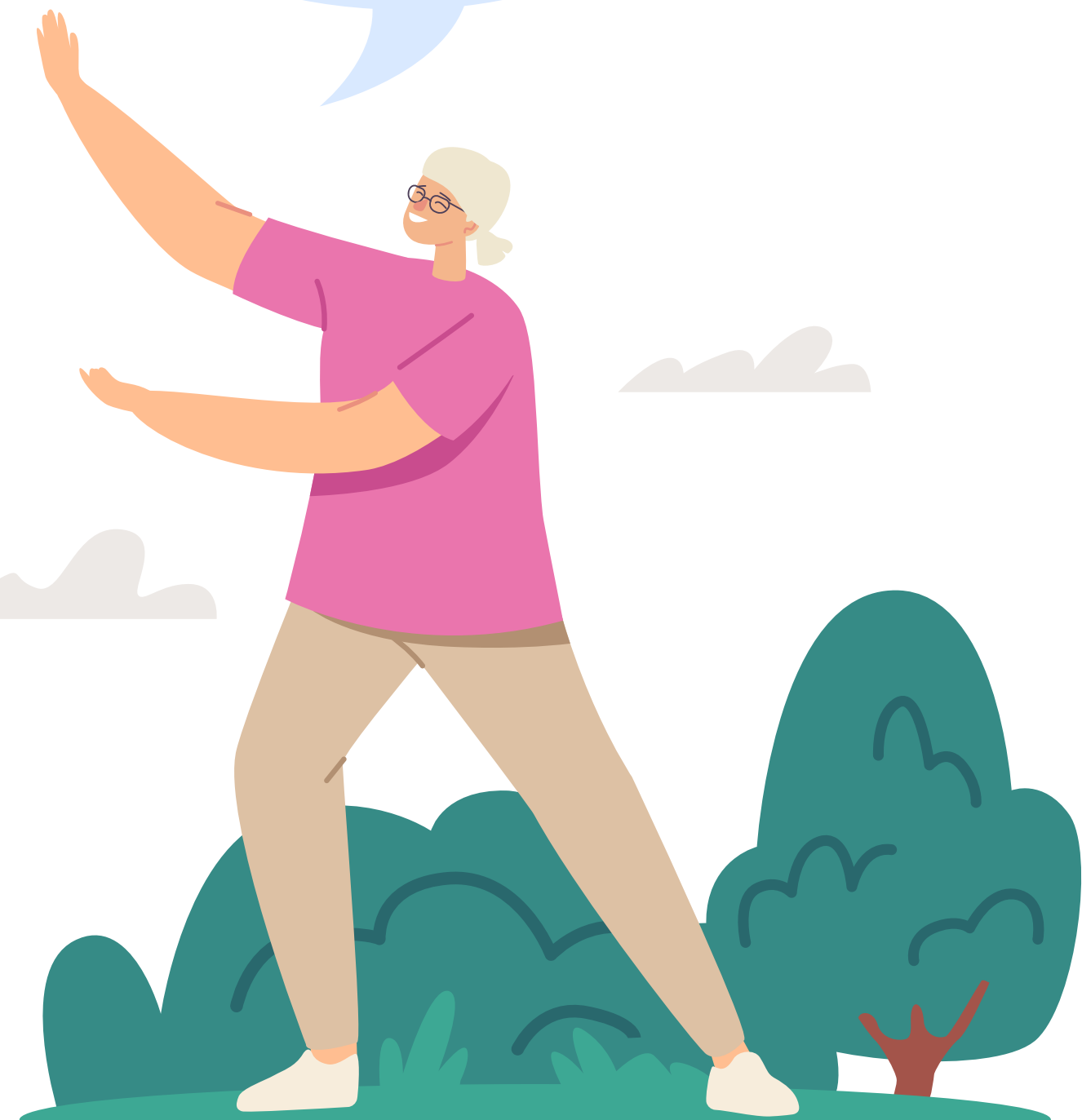
Do any sounds/smells ever remind you of something from when you were a child?

Did your family have any unique traditions when you were a little kid?

If you could go back to any point in your childhood, when would it be? Why?

What's something you believed as a child that you know to be false today?

Do you have any funny stories of something that happened to you as a little kid?



NARRATIVE TENSES

1. Read the story below.

Last night I **was walking home and listening** to a podcast when I **heard** some noise behind. I **stopped and looked back**, but there was just an empty street filled with the moonlight. I **realised** that I **had been** here before, but I couldn't remember what exactly I **had been doing** here...

2. Complete the rules with the tenses below. Name an example of each tense in the paragraph above.

past perfect continuous

past continuous

past perfect

past simple

a) We use the _____ for a sequence of events that happened one after another or for a single event that interrupted a longer event in the past.

b) We use the _____ for the longer event that was interrupted by a short event.

c) We use the _____ for an event that happened before another event in the past.

d) We use the _____ with dynamic verbs to talk about longer continuous actions that started earlier in the past than the main events of the story.



ANSWERS

1. Read the story below.

Last night I **was walking home and listening** to a podcast when I **heard** some noise behind. I **stopped and looked back**, but there was just an empty street filled with the moonlight. I realised that I **had been** here before, but I couldn't remember what exactly I **had been doing** here..

2. Complete the rules with the tenses below. Name an example of each tense in the paragraph above.

past perfect continuous

past continuous

past perfect

past simple

a) We use the **past simple** for a sequence of events that happened one after another or for a single event that interrupted a longer event in the past.

b) We use the **past continuous** for the longer event that was interrupted by a short event.

c) We use the **past perfect** for an event that happened before another event in the past.

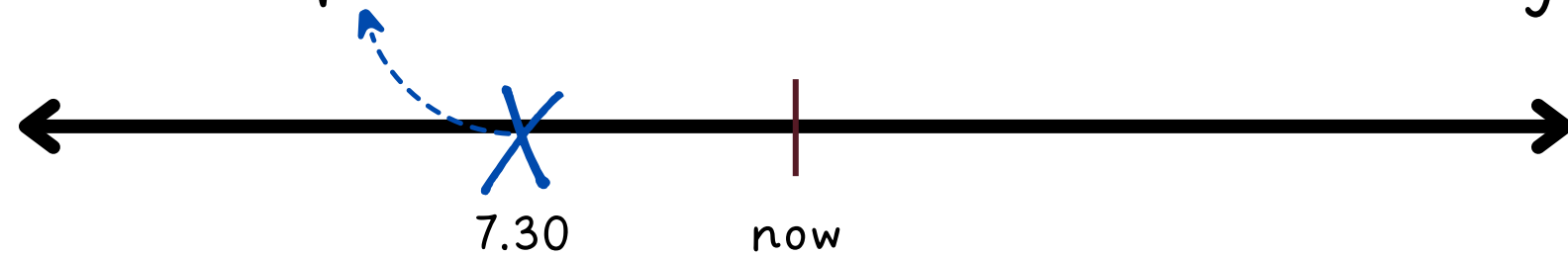
d) We use the **past perfect continuous** with dynamic verbs to talk about longer continuous actions that started earlier in the past than the main events of the story.



NARRATIVE TENSES

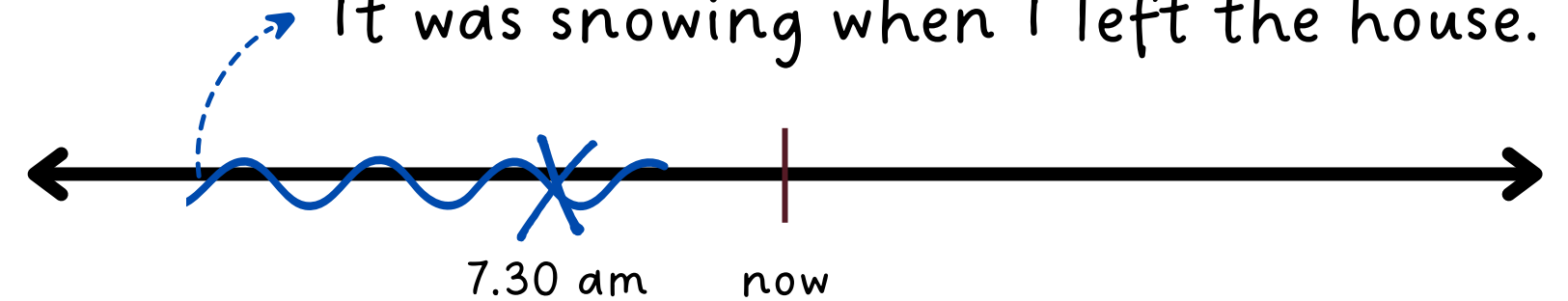
past simple

I left the house at 7.30 am this morning.



past continuous

It was snowing when I left the house.



- The past simple is used to talk about a certain action or event that took place at a specific point in the past. *I visited Rome last summer.*
- We use the past simple to talk about past events in chronological order. *When she came into the room, she pretended that she didn't see us and went to her room.*
- We also use the past simple to talk about past habits or past states. *Bob really enjoyed sport, and was very fit.*



- The past continuous tense is used to talk about an action or event that was in progress at a specific point in the past. *She was cooking dinner yesterday at 3 pm.*
- We use the past continuous to set the scene in a story. *Last night I was walking home and listening to a podcast...*
- We use the past continuous for actions in progress in the past or longer actions interrupted by shorter actions in past simple. *When Eve opened the door, they were talking about her.*

NOW LET'S PRACTICE

Read the comments below. These are the answers to the question "What's your favourite childhood memory?".

Complete the sentences with the verbs in the past simple or past continuous.

The time I _____(steal) my mother's high heels while she _____(sleep). I _____(be) little then, and I _____(want) to become a teacher when I grew up. So, I _____(put) on the heels, _____(pick up) a book and a pen, and _____(pretend) to be a teacher. Later, my mum scolded me because I _____(draw) on one of the doors. But it was still an enjoyable experience!

Jane



When I _____(get) my first mobile phone. I was seven years old. I _____(dream) about it all the time, because all of my friends and every member of my family _____(have) one. My mother _____(tell) me if I did well in my English test, she would buy me a phone. Luckily, I _____(get) good marks in the test, so she _____(get) me a phone the next day. I was over the moon, and that's still my best childhood memory.

Dan



One day I _____(walk) in the park with my friends, when we _____(see) a girl, who _____(cry) on the bench. We _____(ask) her what was wrong. She _____(tell) us that she _____(not know) where her parents were. We _____(look for) them all around the park for about an hour and _____(find) them! I was so proud at that moment. I _____(feel) like a hero.

Jack



ANSWERS

Read the comments below. These are the answers to the question "What's your favourite childhood memory?".

Complete the sentences with the verbs in the past simple or past continuous.

The time I stole my mother's high heels while she was sleeping. I was little then, and I wanted to become a teacher when I grew up. So, I put on the heels, picked up a book and a pen, and pretended to be a teacher. Later, my mum scolded me because I drew on one of the doors. But it was still an enjoyable experience!

Jane



When I got my first mobile phone. I was seven years old. I was dreaming about it all the time, because all of my friends and every member of my family had one. My mother told me if I did well in my English test, she would buy me a phone. Luckily, I got good marks in the test, so she got me a phone the next day. I was over the moon, and that's still my best childhood memory.

Dan



One day I was walking in the park with my friends, when we saw a girl, who was crying on the bench. We asked her what was wrong. She told us that she didn't know where her parents were. We were looking for them all around the park for about an hour and found them! I was so proud at that moment. I felt like a hero.

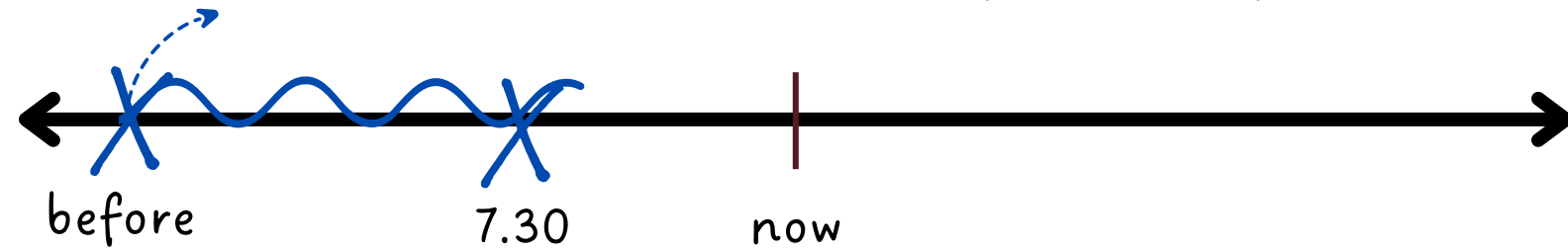
Jack



NARRATIVE TENSES

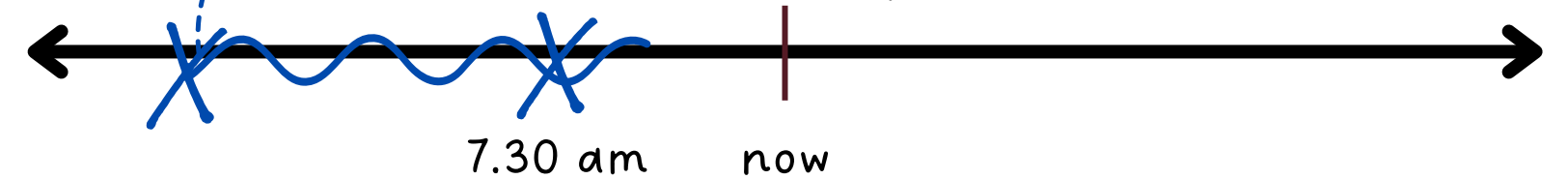
past perfect simple

It **had started** to snow before I left the house.



past perfect continuous

It **had already been snowing** for 30 minutes when I left the house.



- The past perfect tense is used to talk about an event or action that was completed before a certain point in the past. *The train had departed by the time I got to the station.*
- We also use the past perfect simple (and not continuous) to say how much or how many we had done of something earlier in the past. *We had driven 500 kilometres and we needed to have some rest.*
- We use the past perfect simple with stative verbs to talk about states or situations that had started earlier in the past. We often use how long, for or since, always, etc. *Sue told me she had always loved John.*



- We use the past perfect continuous with dynamic verbs to talk about longer continuous actions that started earlier in the past than the main events of the story. *I had been driving for less than two hours when our car suddenly broke down.*
- We use the past perfect continuous with dynamic verbs to talk about repeated actions from earlier in the past. *I couldn't believe it. She had been writing a letter to her mum every day for over a year to apologize for the things she had done.*

NOW LET'S PRACTICE

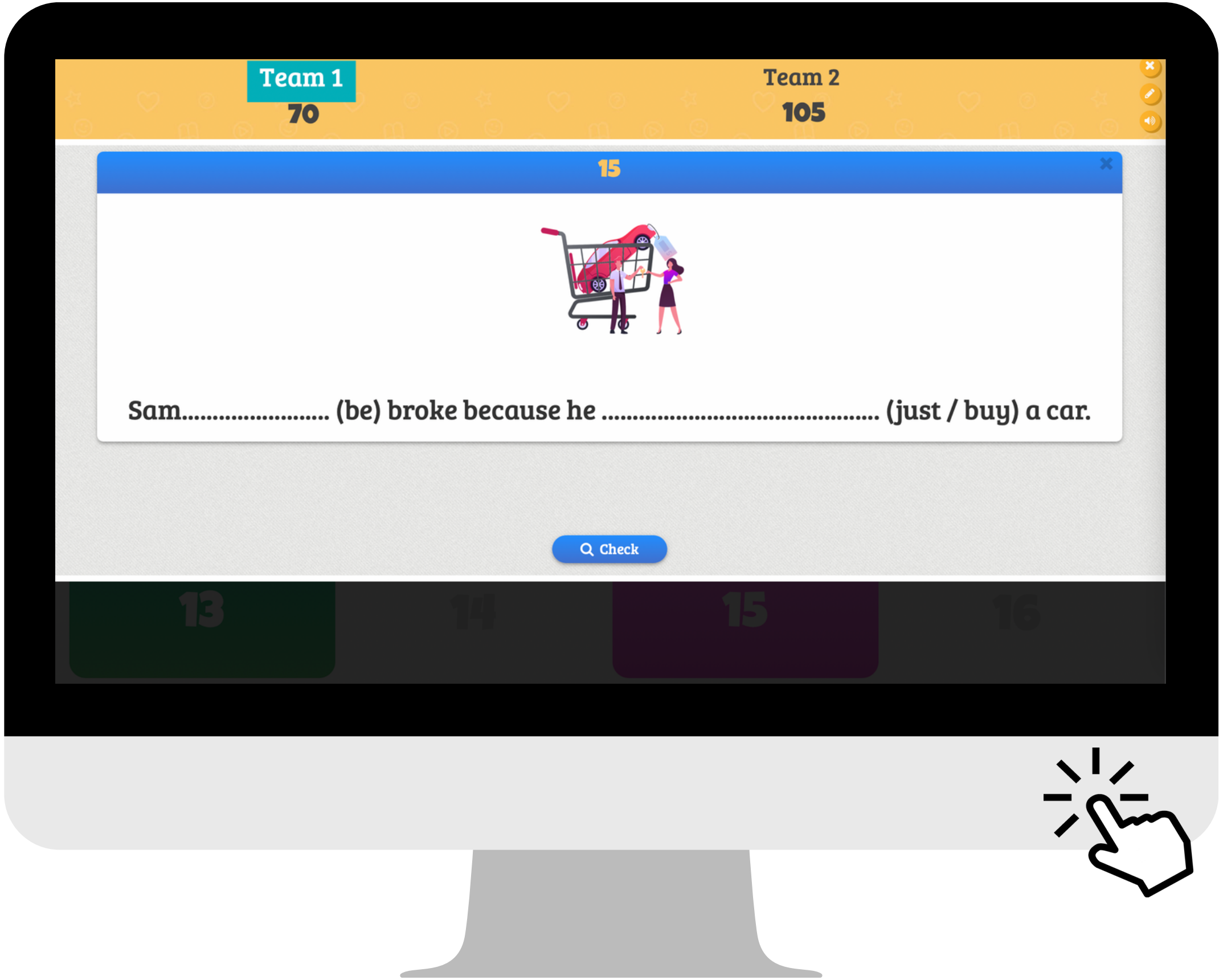
Read the beginnings of the sentences and create the endings in the past perfect simple or past perfect continuous.

1. The kitchen was messy _____
2. We didn't trust Julie _____
3. The teacher was really satisfied _____
4. The baby was crying _____
5. When we arrived at the cinema _____
6. He couldn't make a sandwich _____
7. When the police arrived _____
8. He was all sweaty _____
9. She refused to go to the park _____
10. Everyone was exhausted _____
11. They left before _____
12. We passed the exams easily _____
13. Before they came to the office _____



LET'S PLAY!

Practice all 4 narrative tenses and complete the quiz. Play in teams or player VS player!



STORYTELLING

Look through some linking words and phrases that will help you sequence your story.

BEGINNING

- First of all...
- To start off with...
- Initially...
- To begin with...
- One day/once...

ENDING

- Finally...
- In the end...
- Eventually...

CONTINUING

- Then...
- After that....
- Next....
- As soon as / When + full clause...
- ...but then
- Immediately...

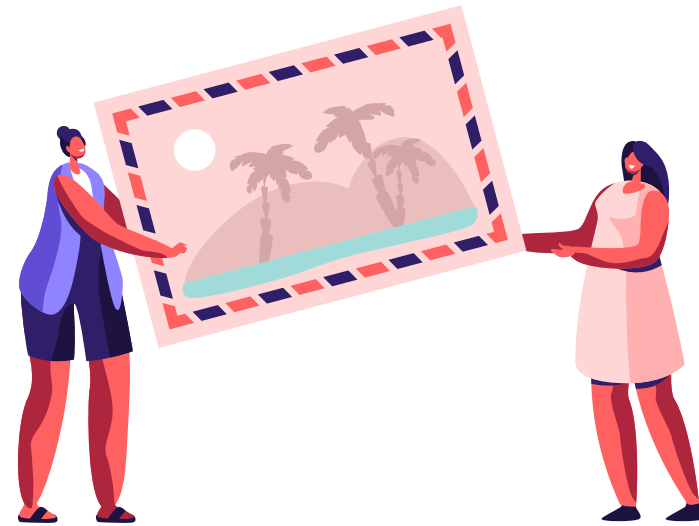
INTERRUPTING

- Suddenly...
- Unexpectedly...



STORYTELLING

Create a story using some of the pictures below. Use narrative tenses and linking words and phrases.



THANK YOU!

 [stromkin.english](https://www.instagram.com/stromkin.english)

