



# Upper intermediate 1 – Unit 3

# Complete the sentences using past tense only and the prompts in parenthesis

Example: Two years ago, **while I was working in Paris, my grandfather died.**  
(while/ I / work/ in Paris/ my grandfather/ die)

1- As soon as I \_\_\_\_\_. ( feed/ the cat/ I / do/ my homework)

2- First I \_\_\_\_\_. ( take / a shower/ then / I / get dressed)

3-Since I was a child \_\_\_\_\_. ( always/ want/ visit/Africa/ and / I finally/ go/  
last year)

4-As he \_\_\_\_\_. ( mail/ the letter/ he / realize/ he/ not put/ a  
stamp)

5- By the time he'd \_\_\_\_\_. ( finish/ speak/ most of the audience/ fall  
asleep).

6- Once I'd \_\_\_\_\_. ( tell/ him/ the truth/ I / feel better)

7- Until I \_\_\_\_\_. ( find/ an apartment/ I / stay with/ friends/ for  
months)

# Answers

1- As soon as I had fed the cat I did my homework.

2- First I took a shower then I got dressed.

3- Since I was a child I had always wanted to visit Africa and I finally went last year.

4- As he mailed the letter he realized that he hadn't put a stamp on it.

5- By the time he'd finished speaking most of the audience had fallen asleep.

6- Once I'd told him the truth I felt better.

7- Until I found an apartment I had stayed with friends for months.

## Let's listen to CD 31

Listen to the first story and correct the mistakes in the sentence.

- 1- Ten workers have died.
- 2- They'd been trapped up a mountain.
- 3- They'd been building a new road.
- 4- There was an avalanche.
- 5- Sixteen men managed to escape.
- 6- The men were recovering at home.
- 7- The cause of the accident is known.

# Correction

- 1- Ten workers had been rescued.
- 2- They'd been trapped underground.
- 3- They'd been digging a tunnel.
- 4- The roof of their tunnel collapsed.
- 5- Sixty men managed to escape.
- 6- Two were fatally injured.
- 7- The men were recovering in the hospital.
- 8- The cause of the accident is unknown.

# Let's listen to CD 32

Listen to the second news story. Here are the answers to some questions. Write the questions!

1- For two days.

2- After school on Wednesday

3- Their photographs

4- Nearby houses

5- A neighbor

6- In a garden shed

7- No, they hadn't (..... Realized....?)

# Questions

- 1- How long had the children been missing?
- 2- When did they disappear?
- 3- What had police released?
- 4- Where had the police been searching?
- 5- Who were they spotted by?
- 6- Where had they slept?
- 7- Had they realized the concern they had caused?

# So what are some of the tenses we used....

He was fired because

He had stolen some money.  
He had been stealing some money for years.

When I got to the garage, my car

was being repaired  
had been repaired



Past Tenses	Structure	Example	Signal words
<p>Past Perfect Continuous that indicates something that began in the past, continued in the past, and also ended at a defined point in the past</p>	Had+ been + verb+ing	I <b>had been looking</b> for a job for several months when I found this position.	When, for, since, and before
<p>Past simple passive :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to focus on the object</li> <li>- to <b>emphasize</b> the subject</li> <li>- when the focus is on the action and <b>NOT</b> on WHO or WHAT is performing the action.</li> </ul>	Was/were + past participle (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	<p>Harry Potter' <b>was written</b> in English.</p> <p>My camera <b>was stolen</b> while I was on holiday</p>	<p>yesterday.</p> <p>last week.</p> <p>a month ago.</p> <p>in 2010.</p> <p>this morning.</p>
<p>Past perfect passive :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to focus on the object</li> <li>- to <b>emphasize</b> the subject</li> <li>- when the focus is on the action and <b>NOT</b> on WHO or WHAT is performing</li> </ul>	had + been + past participle (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	Substances from the experiment <b>had been located</b> while researching.	<p>Already, before, after, just</p> <p>Never,</p> <p>until that day</p>

## Let's try this....

1-Cathy \_\_\_\_\_(play) the piano for 35 years when she was finally asked to do a solo with the local orchestra.

2- He started to leave before he \_\_\_\_\_(give) directions.

3-My son \_\_\_\_\_ (send) home from school for being cheeky to the teachers.

4- When I went to the showroom but was informed that all the houses \_\_\_\_\_(sell)

5- I \_\_\_\_\_(prescribe) some medicine for my cough.

6-The program that was terminated \_\_\_\_\_(work) well since 1945.

7-I \_\_\_\_\_(work) at the company for five years when I got the promotion.

8-I visited my home town last year, only to find that the house I'd grown up in \_\_\_\_\_(demolish)

# Answers

1- Cathy **had been playing** the piano for 35 years when she was finally asked to do a solo with the local orchestra.

2- He started to leave before he **had been given** directions.

3- My son **was sent** home from school for being cheeky to the teachers.

4- When I went to the showroom but was informed that all the houses **had been sold**.

5- I **was prescribed** some medicine for my cough.

6- The program that was terminated **had been working** well since 1945.

7- I **had been working** at the company for five years when I got the promotion.

8- I visited my home town last year, only to find that the house I'd grown up in **had been demolished**.

# In groups

Use these verbs to complete the story

Past simple	Past continuous	Past Perfect Simple	Past Perfect Continuous	Present Perfect
Called Felt Had to Heard Managed Pulled Reached Said Shouted Swam Was Wasn't Went back in	Was recovering Was standing Was trying Were getting	Had been knocked Had hit Had just finished Had moved Had taken	Had been surfing	Has been Have been

# The blind sea hero

David Hurst had been swimming in the sea off the coast near his house in Malibu, California and 2) \_\_\_\_\_ on the beach when he thought he 3) \_\_\_\_\_ cries for help.

Despite being totally blind, Mr. Hurst 4) \_\_\_\_\_ the sea to rescue the person in trouble. " I 5) \_\_\_\_\_ just in the right place at the right time to help somebody," the 53 year old 6) \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday.

Mr. Hurst, who 7) \_\_\_\_\_ blind for 23 years, 8) \_\_\_\_\_ to reach Patrick Black by using the drowning man's cries to guide him. Mr. Black 9) \_\_\_\_\_ but 10) \_\_\_\_\_ off his surfboat by a huge wave and 11) \_\_\_\_\_ his head on a rock. Mr. Hurst 12) \_\_\_\_\_ through the waves to find him, then 13) \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Black and his surfboard back to shore.

Mr. Hurst explained, " I 14) \_\_\_\_\_ drying myself, when someone 15) \_\_\_\_\_ Help! I 16) \_\_\_\_\_ back to him to keep on shouting. I 17) \_\_\_\_\_ think about the direction of the wind, too. While I 18) \_\_\_\_\_ to find him, the wind and the waves 19) \_\_\_\_\_ stronger and stronger. But I just kept going until I finally 20) \_\_\_\_\_ him and got him back to the shore. It 21) \_\_\_\_\_ a long time to fight through the high waves, and we 22) \_\_\_\_\_ completely exhausted." Last night Mr. Black 23) \_\_\_\_\_ in the hospital from shock and a broken arm.

What was even more remarkable was that Mr. Hurst 24) \_\_\_\_\_ familiar with the coastline. He and his wife 25) \_\_\_\_\_ to Malibu only two weeks before.

Fortunately, I 26) \_\_\_\_\_ a good swimmer all my life" he said

# Answers

David Hurst 1) **had been swimming** in the sea off the coast near his house in Malibu, California and 2) **was standing** on the beach when he thought he 3) **heard** cries for help.

Despite being totally blind, Mr. Hurst 4) **went back in** the sea to rescue the person in trouble. " I 5) **was** just in the right place at the right time to help somebody," the 53 year old 6) **said** yesterday.

Mr. Hurst, who 7) **has been** blind for 23 years, 8) **swam** to reach Patrick Black by using the drowning man's cries to guide him. Mr. Black 9) **had been surfing** but 10) **had been knocked** off his surfboat by a huge wave and 11) **had hit** his head on a rock. Mr. Hurst 12) **managed** through the waves to find him, then 13) **pulled** Mr. Black and his surfboard back to shore.

Mr. Hurst explained, " I 14) **had just finished** drying myself, when someone 15) **shouted** Help! I 16) **called** back to him to keep on shouting. I 17) **had to** think about the direction of the wind, too. While I 18) **was trying** to find him, the wind and the waves 19) **were getting** stronger and stronger. But I just kept going until I finally 20) **reached** him and got him back to the shore. It 21) **had taken** a long time to fight through the high waves, and we 22) **felt** completely exhausted." Last night Mr. Black 23) **was recovering** in the hospital from shock and a broken arm.

What was even more remarkable was that Mr. Hurst 24) **wasn't** familiar with the

- Is survival really selfish and uncivilized? Or is it smart? And is going in to rescue others always heroic? Or is it sometimes just stupid?

# Is Survival Selfish?

When the ocean liner Titanic sank in April of 1912, one of the few men to survive the tragedy was J. Bruce Ismay, the chairman and managing director of the company that owned the ship. After the disaster, however, Ismay was savaged by the media and the general public for climbing into a lifeboat and saving himself when there were other women and children still on board.

Ismay said he'd already helped many women and children onto lifeboats and had only climbed into one himself when there were no other women or children in the area and the boat was ready to release. But it didn't matter.

His reputation was ruined. He was labeled an uncivilized coward and, a year after the disaster, he resigned his position at White Star. The Women and children first protocol of the Titanic may not be as strong a social stricture as it was a century ago.

But we still tend to laud those who risk or sacrifice themselves to save others in moments of danger or crisis and look less kindly on those who focus



Self-preservation is supposedly an instinct. So one would think that in life-and-death situations, we'd all be very focused on whatever was necessary to survive. But that's not always true. In July 2007, I was having a drink with a friend in Grand Central Station when an underground steam pipe exploded just outside. From where we sat, we heard a dull "boom!" and then suddenly, people were running, streaming out of the tunnels and out the doors.

My friend and I walked quickly and calmly outside, but to get any further, we had to push our way through a crowd of people who were staring, transfixed, at the column of smoke rising from the front of the station. Some people were crying, others were screaming, others were on their cell phones...but the crowd, for the most part, was not doing the one thing that would increase everyone's chances of survival, if in fact a terrorist bomb with god knows what inside it had just gone off--namely, moving away from the area. We may have an instinct for survival, but it clearly doesn't always kick in the way it should.

A guy who provides survival training for pilots told me once that the number one determining factor for survival is simply whether people hold it together in a crisis or fall apart. And, he said, it's impossible to predict ahead of time who's going to hold it together, and who's going to fall apart. So what is the responsibility of those who hold it together? I remember reading the account of one woman who was in an airliner that crashed on landing. People were frozen or screaming, but nobody was moving toward the emergency exits, even as smoke began to fill the cabin.

After realizing that the people around her were too paralyzed to react, she took direct action, crawling over several rows of people to get to the exit. She got out of the plane and survived. Very few others in the plane, which was soon consumed by smoke and fire, did. And afterward, I remember she said she battled a lot of guilt for saving herself instead of trying to save the others

Could she really have saved the others? Probably not, and certainly not from the back of the plane. Just like the Hiroshima survivors, if she'd tried, she probably would have perished with them. So why do survivors berate themselves for not adding to the loss by attempting the impossible?

Perhaps it's because we get very mixed messages about survival ethics. On the one hand, we're told to put our own oxygen masks on first, and not to jump in the water with a drowning victim. But then the people who ignore those edicts and survive to tell the tale are lauded as heroes. And people who do the "smart" thing are sometimes criticized quite heavily after the fact.

Some people hold it together in a crisis and some people fall apart. Some people might run away from danger one day, and toward it the next. We pick up a thousand cues in an instant of crisis and respond in ways that even surprise ourselves, sometimes

# Questions

1- Which is the best summary of the selection?

- a) It is better in moments of mortal danger to save one's own life than to try to rescue others.
- b) Heroes are admired when they risk or sacrifice their own lives to save others, but their actions go against accepted survival protocols, which prioritize personal safety.
- c) In extreme crises, people either hold it together or fall apart, and there is no telling who the heroes will be until danger strikes.

2- According to the author, why do survivors often experience feelings of guilt?

- a) They believe they should have done more to help others even if they had died trying.
- b) They are confused by the conflicting moral codes attached to survival.
- c) They feel irrationally to blame for the deaths of other people.

3- Which of the following is a statement of fact, and not an expression of opinion?

- a) If she'd tried, she probably would have perished with them.
- b) But Yates was criticized by some for his survival decision, even though the alternative would have almost certainly led to both of their deaths.
- c) But we still tend to laud those who risk or sacrifice themselves to save others in moments of danger or crisis and look less kindly on those who focus on saving themselves, instead.

4- With which statement would the author most likely agree?

a) It is easier to judge the wisdom of a person's actions after the fact.

b) Survivors are usually those who have been in similar situations before

c) Those who do not survive often lack the will to live

5- According to the text, what is NOT a factor that can influence a person's actions in a crisis?

a) Whether the person goes with their "gut" or impulses.

b) Whether they have studied survival situations before

c) Whether the person instinctually protects themselves, or others.

# Oral Quiz 3

- Think of a story you had read before:
  - What genre is the story?
  - Summarize the main idea behind the story.
  - Talk about your favorite character and explain why?