

1. To express an action which occupied a period of time in the past, which is now over.

We lived in this house for ten years (do not live now).

I stayed at the Green Hotel for two months (not staying now).

Exercise 1

Fill in the blanks in the following sentences, using the Verb (given in brackets) in Simple Past Tense:

1. She bought (buy) a car last year.
2. Prices rose (rise) by ten per cent last year.
3. The meeting started (start) after the President had arrived.
4. A fire broke (break) out in our street last night.
5. Last year it rained (rain) heavily.
6. A thief entered (enter) into his house last night.
7. Yesterday I saw (see) a pleasant dream.
8. Columbus discovered (discover) America.
9. The gardener planted (plant) the tree.
10. I caught (catch) a robber last night.

Exercise 2

Rewrite the following sentences in Simple Past Tense:

1. He lends me ten rupees. *He lent me ten rupees.*
2. Babar has founded the Mughal Empire. *Babar found the Mughal Empire.*
3. While I sing, she dances. *While I sang, she danced.*
4. She often shirks from hard work. *She often shirked from hard work.*
5. They have left for Agra yesterday. *They left for Agra yesterday.*
6. I always buy things at wholesale price. *I always bought things at wholesale.*
7. Very beautiful roses grow in the garden. *Very beautiful roses grew in the garden.*
8. Whenever I try to contact him, he evades. *Whenever I tried to contact him, he evaded.*
9. He has passed the secondary examination in 2017. *He passed the secondary examination in 2017.*
10. The birds fly away when I shoot at them. *The birds flew away when I shot at them.*

usually asking silly questions.

Exercise 3

Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with Past Continuous form of the verbs given in brackets:

1. I looked at the sky; the dark clouds were gathering (gather).
2. What were you doing when she came to you? (do)
3. He was writing (write) something when I called on him.
4. I was doing (do) my homework while my sisters were watching (watch) T.V.
5. I was preparing (prepare) the food when she called on me.

6. A large crowd was waiting (wait) at the airport when the American President arrived.
7. were you realising (realise) your folly?
8. He was flying (fly) kites in the evening.
9. They were sitting (sit) while I came to them.
10. Mohan was enjoying (enjoy) while I rang him up.