


A Context listening

1 You will hear a woman giving a talk on the famous composer, Mozart. Before you listen match the words (1–10) with the correct meanings (a–j).

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1 extraordinary | a brother or sister |
| 2 sibling | b reach a high level in something |
| 3 achievement | c part of a piano or computer |
| 4 keyboard | d amazing |
| 5 demand | e status |
| 6 master (<i>verb</i>) | f success |
| 7 gifted | g very talented |
| 8 in rapid succession | h ask in a forceful way |
| 9 reputation | i fast development at a very early age |
| 10 precocious | j quickly one after another |

2  4 Now listen and complete the notes below.

Name:

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Date of birth:

1

Number of surviving brothers and sisters:

2

Profession of father:

3

Wrote first composition before the age of:

4

Taught self to play:

5



3 **4** Listen to the text again and fill in the gaps.

- 1 However, when Mozart five of his siblings in infancy or early childhood.
- 2 Mozart's father, Leopold, a composer, and his grandfather a musician.
- 3 In just 30 minutes Mozart the piece of music, which his father into Nannerl's notebook.
- 4 By the time he six, the little boy a composition of his own.
- 5 They to Vienna and sensational reports of Mozart's talent.
- 6 His family richer than they before.

For each sentence underline which event happened first.

4 Look at your answers to Exercise 3 and answer these questions.

- 1 Which tense is used in sentence 5 to show that the events took place in chronological order?
- 2 Which tense is used in the other sentences to show that the second event the speaker mentioned actually happened first?

B Grammar

1 Past perfect simple

+	<i>had</i> + past participle	<i>They had listened to his music.</i>
-	<i>had not</i> + past participle	<i>They hadn't listened to his music.</i>
?	<i>had ...</i> + past participle?	<i>Had they listened to his music?</i>

We use the past perfect simple

- when we are talking about the past and want to mention something that happened earlier:

*His father was a composer and his grandfather **had also been** a musician. (Mozart's grandfather was a musician and then later his father became a composer)*

Sometimes we use words like *just* or *already*. Notice that these adverbs go between the auxiliary and the main verb:

*By the time he was 17, Mozart's reputation **had already begun** to spread through Europe.*

▲ We use the past simple tense if the events are mentioned in chronological order:

*His grandfather **was** a musician and his father **was** also a composer.*

- with words like *when*, *as soon as*, *by the time*, *after* to show the order of events:

***When** Mozart was born, five of his siblings **had already died**. (Mozart's siblings died first, then Mozart was born)*

▲ Notice the difference in meaning between these two sentences:

*When I got home, my husband **cooked** dinner. (= I got home and then my husband cooked dinner)*

*I got home my husband **cooked** dinner*



THE PAST

*When I got home, my husband **had cooked** dinner. (= my husband cooked dinner before I got home)*

*my husband **had cooked** dinner I got home*



THE PAST

- to talk about an indefinite time before a particular point in the past, often with words like *always*, *sometimes*, *never*, *before*, *by* + fixed time:

*His family were richer than they **had ever been before**. (= they were not as rich at any time before this point in the past)*

***By the time** he was six, the little boy **had written** a composition of his own.*

- to report past events using reporting verbs (see Unit 15):

*The man told me he **had met** my father a long time before.*

2 Past perfect continuous

+	<i>had been + verb + -ing</i>	<i>She'd been studying for ages.</i>
-	<i>had not been + verb + -ing</i>	<i>He hadn't been studying for long.</i>
?	<i>had ... been + verb + -ing?</i>	<i>Had you been studying for long?</i>

We use the past perfect continuous to focus on how long an activity continued or to focus on the activity itself:

*Times were hard and the family **had been struggling for some time.** (to show how long)*

*Mozart's sister was extremely gifted at the keyboard and she **had been making excellent progress.** (focus on the activity)*

⚠ We cannot use the past perfect continuous to say how many times something happened:
*I knew the way as I **had visited** her several times before. (~~not I knew the way as I had been visiting her several times before.~~)*

⚠ State verbs (see Unit 1) do not generally have a continuous form.

Grammar extra: Unfulfilled hopes

We use the past perfect to talk about past disappointments or things that did not happen as expected:

*The politician **had expected** to be re-elected, but in the end she only got ten per cent of the vote.*

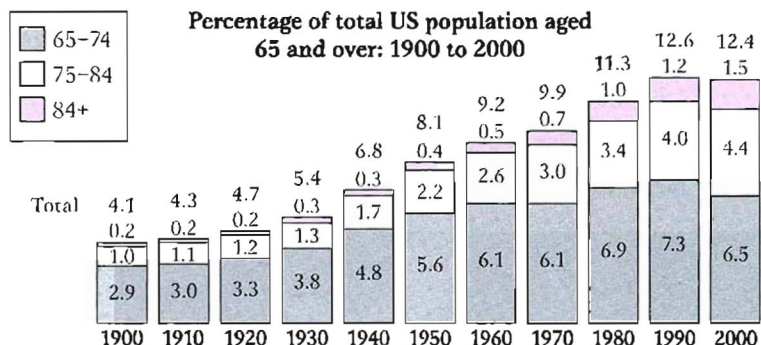
*I **had been hoping** to go with my brother on his trip but I was too sick to go.*

C Grammar exercises

1 Fill in the gaps with the past perfect simple of the verbs in brackets in the positive or negative.

According to Dr Ken Winkle, Australia's Red-back spider is colonising the world. Dr Winkle, a venom expert from the University of Melbourne, said that authorities 1 *had found* (*find*) Red-back spiders in Japan and Belgium. They suspected that spiders or their eggs 2 (*enter*) these countries along with Australian trading goods. Furthermore, it was extremely likely that the spiders 3 (*make*) their way into other nations around the world but that people 4 (*discover*) them yet. Dr Winkle said the spiders 5 (*also/turn up*) in the port city of Osaka (which receives a variety of Australian trade goods) in the late 1990s and 6 (*multiply*) quickly. He said Australian spider experts were collaborating with Japanese officials to find a way to stop the venomous invader.

2 Complete the report with the past simple or past perfect simple of the verbs in brackets.



The chart shows the percentage of people aged 65 and over in the United States between 1900 and 2000. In the year 1900 just over 4% of the population 1 *was* (*be*) aged over 65. However, by 1960 this figure 2 (*double*).

The number of people aged between 75 and 84 3 (*remain*) fairly steady between 1900 and 1930, making up only 1–1.3% of the population. The figure 4 (*begin*) to rise more significantly in 1940 and by 1970 it 5 (*triple*) to reach 3% of the population.

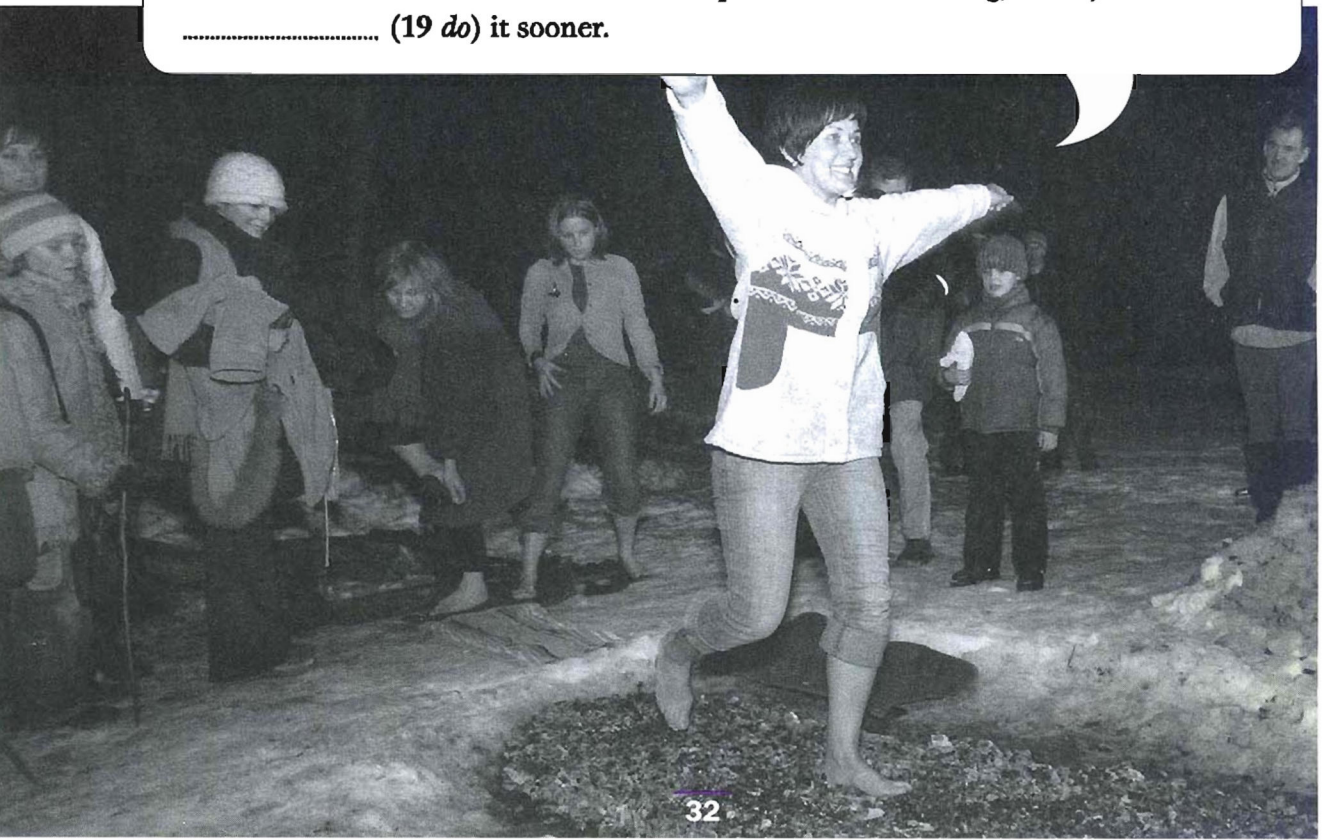
Although there 6 (*be*) no change in the number of people aged 65–74 between 1960 and 1970, the number of people aged 75 and over 7 (*increase*) during this time. By the year 2000, 12.4% of the US population 8 (*reach*) the age of 65 or more, although this was slightly lower than in 1990 when it 9 (*peak*) at 12.6%.

The chart shows that today people in the United States can expect to live longer than in 1900. By the year 2000 more than 12% of the population 10 (*manage*) to live to the age of 65 and over compared to only 4.1% in 1900.

- 3 Fill in the gaps with the past simple, past perfect simple or past perfect continuous of the verbs in brackets.

Last year my friends *arranged* (1 *arrange*) for us to try fire-walking, which is when you walk on hot coals. I (2 *always/be*) fascinated by it and I (3 *hear*) people say it was an unforgettable experience. I was very excited when I (4 *arrive*) on the day, although beforehand I (5 *feel*) a little frightened! My friends and I (6 *come*) in the hope that by the end of the day we would be able to say we (7 *walk*) across hot, burning coals.

Our teacher was very good, and by teatime we (8 *learnt*) a great deal and (9 *prepare*) the fires. I (10 *expect*) to be terrified when the time came to walk, but as I (11 *take off*) my shoes and socks I (12 *not/feel*) afraid. I (13 *approach*) the coals as all my friends before me (14 *do*), and started walking! I could feel the heat, but as I (15 *step*) back onto the grass at the other end I knew the coals (16 *not/burn*) my feet at all. As I (17 *hope*), all my friends (18 *manage*) the walk and none of us were burnt. The whole experience was amazing, and I just wished I (19 *do*) it sooner.



- 4** Fill in the gaps with a verb from the box in the past simple, past perfect simple or past perfect continuous tense. Use each verb once.

be buy decide develop discuss feel like make
phone run start stay take visit wait ~~work~~

- 1 She 'd. been working as a waitress for five years when he met her.
- 2 The lecture by the time they got there.
- 3 In the supermarket he all the ingredients he needed and then went home to make her birthday cake.
- 4 Holly did very well in her exam, which was a shock because she
(*never*) an exam before.
- 5 They went on a big tour of Britain. First they in London for a few days. Then they Cambridge, York, and Edinburgh, and then Bath. They to Bath before, but they it so much that they to go back again.
- 6 Scientists announced the launch of the new drug last week. They it for five years.
- 7 By the time I got to the meeting they (*already*) the important issues and they the big decisions without me. I from my mobile to tell them the train was late and I annoyed that they (*not*) for me.
- 8 I looked terrible when I saw Joe last night because I for over an hour and I was exhausted.