

SPEAKING

1 A Discuss the questions.

- 1 How do you keep up-to-date with the news?
- 2 What have been the most important stories in the last five years?

B **2.6** Listen to the excerpts from news reports. Which stories can you see in the photos?

READING

2 A Work in pairs. Read the definition and look at the photos below. Then answer the questions.

a conspiracy theory: /kən'spɪrəsi 'θiəri/ a theory or belief that there was a secret plan behind a major event

From Longman Active Study Dictionary.

- 1 What do you think the conspiracy theories were about (the events in the photos)?
- 2 Which story do you think involved a real conspiracy, according to official reports?

B Read the article to check your answers.

3 A Read the article again and answer the questions.

- 1 Who died in their bathroom?
- 2 Who was shot?
- 3 Who was arrested?
- 4 Who was murdered?
- 5 Who were the suspects?
- 6 Who was photographed?

B How are these words and phrases related to the stories?

shadows fans stars painkillers
 photographs a studio hospital
 the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation)
 a man with a gun a flag

C Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

- 1 What do you think? Do you believe the official reports or the conspiracy theorists?
- 2 Do you know any other conspiracy theories? What happened?

The World's best-known conspiracy theories



Man on the Moon We've seen the photos, but many people claim that Neil Armstrong's 'giant leap for mankind' never really happened. They suspect that the astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin never left earth, but acted out the scene and took photographs in a studio. Conspiracy theorists say there were strange shadows falling in the photos, and surprisingly no stars are visible. They point out that the US flag, planted by Buzz Aldrin, was apparently waving, although there is no wind on the Moon. However, these doubts can be explained logically. The lighting conditions on the Moon were complicated, and the flag only appears to 'flutter' because the astronauts moved it.



The King is Dead When Elvis Presley was found lying unconscious on his bathroom floor at his home *Graceland*, his family and friends desperately tried to save him. An ambulance was called and Elvis was rushed to hospital where a special room had been prepared for him. However, the 'King of Rock'n'Roll' was already dead when he arrived there. At first, doctors said that Elvis died because his heart had stopped, but later they claimed that drugs were involved. Elvis had taken painkillers because he had toothache and he couldn't sleep. However, for years his fans refused to believe that Elvis was gone, and there were numerous sightings of 'Elvis' around the world. There is even a website elvis-is-alive.com dedicated to finding out the truth.



The Death of a President President John F. Kennedy was assassinated on 22nd November 1963. He was riding through crowds in his car when a gunman shot him once in the head. Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested almost immediately after Kennedy's death, and charged with killing him. He was murdered two days later. A report in 1964 concluded that Oswald had acted alone. But conspiracy theorists have doubts, and believe more people were involved. Suspects include the CIA, the FBI and the Cuban leader Fidel Castro. In 1979, a new report agreed that Oswald had killed Kennedy, but also concluded that the President was killed 'as a result of conspiracy' by unknown people.

GRAMMAR

NARRATIVE TENSES

- 4 A** Read the summary. Find and underline examples of the past simple and the past continuous and answer the questions.

In 1963, President Kennedy and his team were preparing for the next presidential campaign. In Dallas, he was riding through crowds in his car when a gunman shot him.

- Which tense is used to talk about the main events in a story?
- Which tense is used to give background information in a story?

- B** Read the conclusion and answer the questions.


Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested for the crime. A report later agreed that Oswald had killed Kennedy, but also concluded that there had been a conspiracy by a number of unknown people.

- Which of the underlined verbs is in the past simple?
- Which of the underlined verbs is in the past perfect?
- Which tense describes the event(s) that happened first?

- C** Underline the correct alternative to complete the rule.

RULES

Use the past perfect to talk about actions which happened *before the past time event we are talking about/a very long time ago*.

- D**  **2.7 WEAK FORMS: had, was, were** Listen to the news summary. Notice how *was, were* and *had* are pronounced. Listen again. Try to shadow read the text (read at the same time as the recording).

were preparing /wə/ not /wɜː/

was riding /wəz/ not /wɒz/

had killed /həd/ not /hæd/

▷ page 130 **LANGUAGEBANK**

- 5** Read an account of an important news event. Complete the text with phrases a)–h).

- He had been in prison
- one of the branches broke
- we heard some shots
- 50,000 people were waiting
- to hear what Mandela was saying
- When he finally arrived
- were talking to each other
- many people had climbed onto it



11 February 2000: Nelson Mandela's release from prison

I was in the crowd on the parade in Cape Town that day. It was a hot day, and ¹_____ to see Mandela walk free from the prison. ²_____ for twenty-seven years. At one point ³_____ but most people stayed calm. People ⁴_____ and singing songs. There was a great feeling of solidarity. There was a large tree in the middle of the parade, and ⁵_____ to get a better view. Suddenly, ⁶_____ and people fell to the ground. But nobody wanted to leave. Nobody wanted to miss the chance of seeing Mandela for the first time. ⁷_____ there was a huge cheer. From where I was standing, it was difficult ⁸_____ but I knew I was there for an important moment in our history.

VOCABULARY

THE NEWS

- 6 A** Match the headlines 1–8 with the explanations a)–h).

1 Actress survives **crash**

2 Politicians **attacked** by angry crowd

3 Student demonstration turns **violent**

4 Workers to **strike over pay**

5 Massive **earthquake** hits Italy

6 Most wanted **fugitive** arrested

7 Floods **destroy** crops

8 **Hostages** released after talks with rebels

- Lots of angry people shout and throw things at some politicians.
- People who were kept as prisoners are allowed to go free.
- Police catch a man who they suspect committed a serious crime.
- A natural disaster destroys part of a country.
- A woman is involved in a car accident but doesn't die.
- A lot of farmland is under water.
- Many people might refuse to go to work.
- People who are protesting begin to fight on the streets.

- B** Work in pairs. Describe some stories which have recently been in the news using the vocabulary in bold above.

speaKout TIP

Headlines can be difficult. They contain incomplete sentences: articles and auxiliaries can be dropped, simple tenses are used instead of continuous or perfect tenses and the infinitive is used to talk about the future. Find examples in the headlines.

▷ page 149 **VOCABULARYBANK**

SPEAKING

7 A Choose one of the news stories in the lesson or another important news story. Make notes to answer the questions below.

- 1 What was the news story? Where were you when you heard the news?
- 2 What were you doing? Who were you with?
- 3 What did you think at first? How did you feel?
- 4 Did the news change things for you in any way?

B Work with other students. Tell them about your story.

WRITING

A NEWS REPORT; LEARN TO USE TIME LINKERS

8 A Read the news report and answer the questions. Underline the parts of the news report which help you to answer.

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Who is the story about? | 4 Where did it happen? |
| 2 What happened? | 5 When did it happen? |
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Fraud fugitive in Facebook trap

A man who was on the run from police in the US revealed where he was hiding through a series of Facebook updates. Cameroon-born Maxi Sopo falsely obtained credit from banks while he was living in the US. By the time he had finished, he had stolen more than \$200,000. He then escaped to Cancun in Mexico, where he was happily spending the money, until he made posts on his Facebook page telling the world that he was 'living in paradise'.

'He was making posts about how beautiful life is and how he was having a good time with his buddies,' said Assistant US Attorney Michael Scoville. 'He was definitely not living the way we wanted him to be living, given the charges he was facing,' he added.

However, during his time in Cancun, Mr Sopo also befriended a former justice department official on the networking site. This man, who had only met Mr Sopo a few times, was able to discover exactly where Mr Sopo was living. As soon as he had this information, he passed it to the Mexican authorities who arrested Sopo last month.

The twenty-six-year-old is currently in custody in Mexico City.

B Read the news report again. Find examples of the following:

- 1 quotes used to give someone's opinion
- 2 a concluding statement which gives us information about the current situation
- 3 an introductory statement which explains in one sentence what happened
- 4 more information about the background to the story

9 A Look at the news report and find examples of the time linkers in the box.

as soon as while during until
by the time

B Look at the words/phrases in the box above. Which time linker do we use to link an action that:

- 1 happened previously? by the time
- 2 continues up to that point and then stops?

- 3 happens at the same time as another action?

- 4 happens at some point in a period of time?

- 5 happens immediately after something else has happened?

C Complete the sentences with the correct time linker.

- 1 I came _____ I heard the news.
- 2 They arrived _____ we were having dinner.
- 3 Her cat died _____ the night.
- 4 We waited _____ the lights had gone out.
- 5 _____ the fire engines arrived, the house was destroyed.

10 A Work in pairs. Choose a headline and write six questions asking for information about the story.

Actress survives crash

Politicians attacked by angry crowd

Man shot outside his house

B Give your questions to another pair of students.

C Look at the questions and use them to write a short news report (100–150 words). Use the ideas in Exercise 8B to help you.

D Compare your stories with other students. Who has the best story?

2.2 narrative tenses

past simple

Use the past simple for states and actions in the past. We often specify the time when they happened:

I left university in 1996. He didn't know the way to Sal's house.

past continuous

Use the past continuous to talk about the background information for a story. Use the past simple to talk about the main events.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

past continuous

I was walking through the park ...

The sun was shining ...

The birds were singing ...

past

WHEN

MAIN EVENT

past simple

... I heard a noise

now

As I was walking through the park, the sun was shining and the birds were singing. Suddenly, I heard a loud noise.

Often the past continuous action is interrupted by another action (in the past simple):

I was having a bath when the phone rang.

We can use conjunctions like *as* and *while* to talk about two actions which were happening at the same time:

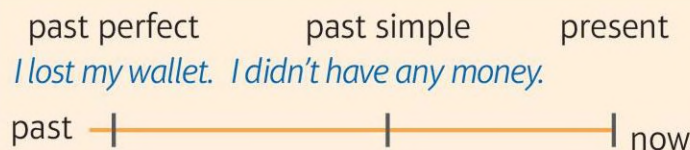
While I was reading the paper, I watched the women buying vegetables in the market.

For more information on state and dynamic verbs section 1.2, page 128.

past perfect

+	I had finished my work.
-	They hadn't had time.
?	Had they been there before?

Use the past perfect to make it clear that one action happened before the other.



I didn't have any money because I had lost my wallet.

When *before* or *after* is used in the sentence, it's already clear which action comes before the other, so we can use the past simple instead of the past perfect:

She had lived in London for five years before she moved to New York.

She lived in London for five years before she moved to New York.

We often use the past perfect with 'thinking' verbs like *remember*, *realise*, *think*, *discover*, *find out*, etc.:

When I got to the school, I realised I'd left my books at home.

2.2

A Underline the correct alternatives to complete the story.

I remember when Marvin Gaye ¹*died/had died*.
I ²*had been/was going* to one of his concerts a few months before. In fact, he ³*hadn't played/wasn't playing* very well and I was disappointed. I also remember when JFK was shot. I ⁴*had lived/was living* with my parents in New York and I ⁵*studied/was studying* at the time. I remember the cleaning lady ⁶*came/was coming* into the room, and said to me, 'Hey, President Lincoln has been shot.' I ⁷*replied/was replying*, 'I know that.' 'No,' she said. 'President Lincoln has been shot!' So I said, 'What do you mean?' And she said, 'Oh no, I mean ... President, you know, what's his name, the one now. President Kennedy's been shot.' So then I ⁸*was turning/turned* on the radio.

B Find and correct the mistakes. One sentence is correct.

- 1 I was leaving the room when I had heard someone shouting.
- 2 I couldn't open the door because I left my keys at home.
- 3 We drove through the tunnel when the car broke down.
- 4 As soon as the film started I realised I seen it before.
- 5 I never been to Egypt before, so I was really excited to see the pyramids.
- 6 By the time we arrived at the party, everybody else is leaving.
- 7 We had waited for nearly an hour before the waiter took our order.
- 8 I looked through some old photographs when I found this one of you.

Lesson 2.2 THE NEWS

1 A Read the text and match the words and phrases in bold with definitions 1–10 below.

- 1 a group of criminals who work together _____
- 2 thieves carrying weapons _____
- 3 an attack by criminals on a bank, shop, etc., to steal money or valuable things _____
- 4 (doing something) while threatening to shoot someone _____
- 5 people whose job it is to protect people or a place, or to make sure that a person does not escape _____
- 6 leave a place or dangerous situation when someone is trying to catch you _____
- 7 people who saw the crime _____
- 8 took people who were involved in a crime away (to a police station) _____
- 9 warn people that something bad is happening _____
- 10 made someone do this _____

Two **security guards** were kidnapped and held hostage for twelve hours by a **gang** of **armed robbers**, who attempted to **raid** a security depot. The robbers held the guards **at gunpoint** and **forced** them to hand over keys and security information. They then proceeded to fill a lorry with more than £53 million in notes. Another £150 million was left behind because there was no more room in the getaway vehicle. Luckily, one of the guards managed to **raise the alarm**, and the police arrived and **arrested** the gang before they could **escape**. **Eye witnesses** said that they saw at least eight men being arrested.



- B** Divide the words and phrases into two groups: people and actions. Which words do not fit in either group?
- C** Tell your partner about a crime you've heard about. It can be from the news, a film or your own experience.

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LISTENING

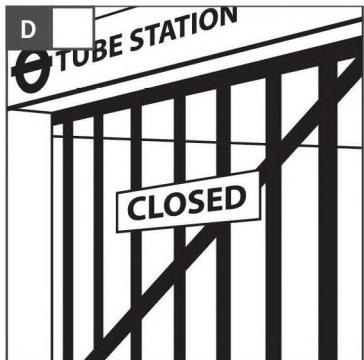
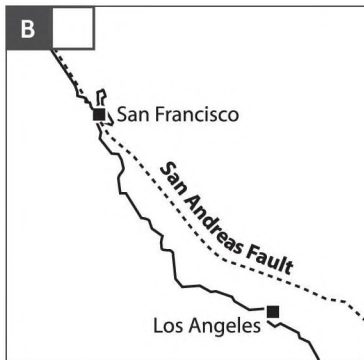
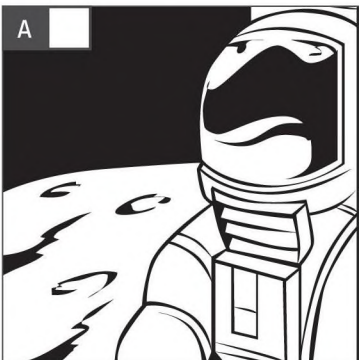
1 A Read the introduction to a radio programme. Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 A 'flashbulb memory' is a memory of an important event.
- 2 You do not usually remember small details with a flashbulb memory.

FLASHBULB MEMORIES – WHERE WERE YOU THEN?

Do you remember where you were when an important event occurred? Can you remember who you were with? Then you may have what is called a 'flashbulb memory'. In 1977, two psychologists, Roger Brown and James Kulick, used the term 'flashbulb memories' to talk about people's recollections of the John F. Kennedy assassination. They suggested that, like a camera's flashbulb, when a truly shocking event happens, the brain 'takes a picture' of the moment when you learn about the event. This enables us to remember, sometimes in great detail, events of an emotional significance to us. Tune in to Radio 6 *Real Lives* and listen to some of the stories.

B  **2.2** Listen to the stories. Match pictures A–D with speakers 1–4.



C Listen again and answer the questions.

- 1 Who was angry about not getting to a meeting on time?

- 2 Who watched the news on a black and white television?

- 3 Who got up to make everyone coffee? _____
- 4 Who were trying to talk on their mobile phones? _____
- 5 Who thought that maybe what they remembered was just a dream? _____
- 6 Who wanted peace for everyone? _____

GRAMMAR

NARRATIVE TENSES

2 Circle the correct option to complete the sentences.

- 1 Simon was feeling exhausted because
 - a) the baby wasn't sleeping all night.
 - b) the baby hadn't slept all night.
- 2 We were driving to the hospital to visit Sam when
 - a) they called to say she had gone home.
 - b) they were calling to say that she was going home.
- 3 By the time we got to the beach
 - a) the rain had stopped.
 - b) the rain stopped.
- 4 Juan was feeling excited because
 - a) he wasn't seeing his parents for ten years.
 - b) he hadn't seen his parents for ten years.
- 5 She was singing an old folk song
 - a) which I hadn't heard for years.
 - b) which I didn't hear for years.
- 6 Everyone was dancing because
 - a) Porto had just won the match.
 - b) Porto were just winning the match.

3 Complete the conversations with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Conversation 1

- A:** What ¹ _____ (happen) to you on Saturday night? We ² _____ (wait) for ages, but you ³ _____ (not come).
B: I'm really sorry. I ⁴ _____ (drive) back from Aga's house when my car ⁵ _____ (break) down.

A: Why didn't you call?

B: My phone ⁶ _____ (run out) of battery.

Conversation 2

- A:** ⁷ _____ you _____ (enjoy) your dinner last night?
B: No. Actually, I ⁸ _____ (hate) it.
A: Why? What happened?
B: Well, we ⁹ _____ (book) a table, but I ¹⁰ _____ (not realise) it was right by the door. People ¹¹ _____ (come) in and out all evening and it was freezing. Then, when the waiter ¹² _____ (pour) my wine, he ¹³ _____ (spill) it down my dress. And also, we ¹⁴ _____ (order) fish, which they ¹⁵ _____ (say) was fresh. But when it ¹⁶ _____ (arrive) it ¹⁷ _____ (taste) terrible!

VOCABULARY

THE NEWS

- 4 A** Complete the headlines with the words in the box.

crash demonstration attacked strikes
earthquake fugitive floods hostages

1

Plane _____ in the Mediterranean

2

Thousands killed and more homeless
in huge _____ in Haiti

3

Pirates take families as _____

4

**HEAVY _____ DESTROY
HOUSES AS RIVER WATER RISES**

5

_____ arrested at airport

6

Thousands attend anti-war _____

7

**PRIME MINISTER _____ WITH EGGS
AND ROTTEN FRUIT DURING CONFERENCE**

8

Train workers' _____
cause delays

- B** Circle the correct option to complete the sentences.

- We need to check our flights. The airport workers are planning _____.
a) strikes b) demonstrations
- Protesters _____ the building when they were locked out and caused a lot of damage.
a) demonstrated b) attacked
- Police were congratulated when the _____ was finally arrested.
a) hostage b) fugitive
- If the rain continues, more _____ are expected.
a) floods b) earthquakes
- The driver _____ because he had turned the corner too fast.
a) crashed b) attacked

WRITING

A NEWS REPORT; LEARN TO USE TIME LINKERS

- 5 A** Put the sentences/paragraphs in the correct order to complete three news reports, A–C. Each report should have three parts:

- an introductory statement to say what happened
- background information
- a concluding statement (or an opinion in quotes).

REPORT A

- a _____ The pupils mark their fingerprints ¹*while/as soon as* they enter the church. They will be monitored over three years.
- b _____ ²*During/Until* that time, if they attend 200 masses, they will be excused from taking one exam.
- c _____ A Polish priest has installed an electronic reader in his church in Warsaw for school children to leave their fingerprints when they attend mass.

REPORT B

- a _____ But Kiyotaka Yamana, a Tokyo resident who started the 'Love Message Yelling Event' after his marriage failed, said that didn't mean they were unromantic. 'The dominant image of Japanese men is of overworked businessmen, but I wanted to tell people around the world that Japanese men are actually very romantic,' Yamana told reporters.
- b _____ ³*While/During* they are on stage, yelling 'I love you' or 'Let me be with you', they are filmed and the event is broadcast on national television. ⁴*Until/By the time* recently, Japanese men have usually chosen not to talk very openly about love.
- c _____ Love is really in the air in Tokyo at the 'Love Message Yelling Event'. ⁵*While/During* the event, dozens of people stand on a stage in Hibiya Park in central Tokyo and shout out love messages to their partners.

REPORT C

- a _____ However, ⁶*by the time/until* they reached the ruins, the area had been cut off by floods and mudslides and they had to wait ⁷*as soon as/until* army helicopters could come and airlift them to safety.
- b _____ The travellers had finished the difficult 45-km (28-mile) trek along Peru's Inca trail to see the famous Machu Picchu ruins.
- c _____ Over a thousand tourists had to be evacuated from Machu Picchu last week.

- B** For each report, answer the questions.

- What happened?
- Where was it exactly?
- Why did it happen?

- C** Underline the correct time linkers to complete the reports.

- D** Write a short news report (80–120 words) describing a recent news event in your country.