

Use the word given and other words to complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. Do not use more than five words.

- 1 Lilla rang me during my favourite TV programme.

I

Lilla rang me while _____ TV programme.

- 2 We got homework from our teacher every day.

WOULD

Our teacher _____ homework every day.

- 3 I've been teaching for ten years.

TEACHER

I

_____ ago.

- 4 Joey has a much easier life now.

BE

Joey's life _____ than it is now.

- 5 I'd prefer you to come tomorrow afternoon.

RATHER

I

_____ tomorrow afternoon.

- 6 We arrived late for the performance.

ALREADY

The performance _____ when we arrived.

- 7 Tom broke the news during dinner.

WE

It was while _____ Tom broke the news.

- 8 His collapse was due to overwork.

BEEN

He collapsed because _____ hard.

- 9 I didn't have any money left, so I couldn't buy it.

SPENT

I couldn't buy it because _____ of my money.

- 10 They haven't seen Pete for three weeks.

WAS

The last _____ three weeks ago.

- 11 It was my first visit to the States.

NEVER

I

_____ to the States before.

- 12 Would you lend me your car?

WONDERING

I

_____ borrow your car.

Below you will see some examples of ways to express past time. Space has been left for you to add your own examples.

a Past events:

I **worked** in an office for two years and then I **got** sick of it and **left**.

b Past habits:

When I was younger, I **went** jogging at least once a day.

This could also be expressed as:

When I was younger, I **used to go** jogging at least once a day.

When I was younger, I **would go** jogging at least once a day.

c Past states:

When I was younger, I **had** much longer hair.

This could also be expressed as:

When I was younger, I **used to have** much longer hair.

*(Notice you cannot use **would** as having longer hair is not a habit.)*

d Action in progress / background information:

I **was having** dinner when the phone rang.

It was a beautiful day. The sun **was shining** and the birds **were singing**.

e An action before the past:

When we arrived, we found that the train **had** already **left**.

Her face was familiar. I was sure I **had met** her before.

f An action leading up to a time in the past:

When we met, she **had been living** there for five years.

He was very tired because he **had been working** so hard.

It might help to remember this as being the past form of the present perfect.

g Expressions using past tenses:

I **was wondering** if I could leave early this evening.

Polite request.

I **was thinking** of going to the cinema tomorrow evening.

Not a firm decision.

It's (high) time you **got** a haircut.

Strong suggestion.

I'd (I would) rather you **didn't use** my comb.

Strong request.

h Other examples:
