

## Intermediate GrammarPlus

## An Old Friend

1 Read this story and put the events into the correct order.

- A Martin reads a magazine.
- B Martin recognises an old school friend.
- C Martin makes some coffee.
- D Martin decides to go to the doctor's.
- E Martin goes to the gym.
- F Martin meets some old school friends.

The alarm clock rang as usual at 7am. "I know I'm used to getting up at this time," Martin groaned, "but Monday morning is always a struggle!" When he got out of bed, he felt a sharp pain in his leg. "I overdid it at the gym yesterday," he thought to himself. The pain got worse when he went downstairs to make his breakfast. While he was making the coffee, he decided he had better go to the doctor's. "I can't remember the last time I went," thought Martin. "I'm used to being fit and full of energy."

After breakfast Martin made his way to the doctor's surgery. When he walked into the waiting room, he was surprised to see so many people. He discovered there was a new doctor, called David Simmons, and had the feeling that he had heard this name before. He looked at the other people in the room. A young woman was blowing her nose. She probably had a bad cold. There was a child who was complaining while his father was talking on his mobile phone. Most of the other people in the room were reading magazines. Martin picked up a magazine about holidays and started to read.

One hour later Martin was called into the doctor's surgery. "Hello," said the doctor with a friendly smile. He stood up and shook Martin's hand. "Your face looks very familiar." As Martin was shaking the doctor's hand, he suddenly realised who he was. "I know why your name rang a bell. It's you, David. Do you remember me? We used to go to primary school together. I'm Martin Jarrot." "Why yes, Martin!" exclaimed the doctor. "Of course I remember you. How wonderful it is to see you after all these years! Yes, we used to be great friends."

It did not take long for Martin's leg to heal. After meeting again in such an unexpected fashion, Martin and David renewed their friendship. They even went to visit some other ex-classmates and organised a school reunion. It had not been such a bad thing to go to the doctor's after all!



## DISCOVER

Grammar 1 (*be used to / used to*)

2 Read these extracts from the story, then complete the Deductions box.

- 1 *I'm used to getting up at this time.*
- 2 *We used to go to primary school together.*

## DEDUCTIONS

a Put the jumbled up components of the construction in extract 1 into the correct order.  
*used to / be / verb+ -ing / subject*

\_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

b The construction in extract 1 refers to a habitual action or state *in the past / in the present*.  
(cross out the incorrect option)

c Put the jumbled up components of the construction in extract 2 into the correct order.

*used to / subject / infinitive*

\_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

d The construction in extract 2 refers to a habitual action or state *in the past / in the present*.  
(cross out the incorrect option)

3 Find another example of each construction in the story, then complete these sentences with *be used to* or *used to* and the appropriate form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 When I was young \_\_\_\_\_ very thin but recently I have put on too much weight. (be)
- 2 I don't mind sharing an apartment with friends. I \_\_\_\_\_ lots of people around me all the time. (have)
- 3 David \_\_\_\_\_ late, so I'm sure he won't be too tired to come to the party. (work)
- 4 I \_\_\_\_\_ my friends to dinner a lot, but now I don't have enough time to cook. (invite)

## DISCOVER

### Grammar 2

(Past Continuous / Past Simple)

4 Look at these extracts from the story and underline all the verbs in the Past Continuous, then cross out the incorrect options in the Deductions box.

*While he was making the coffee, he decided he had better go to the doctor's.*

*As Martin was shaking the doctor's hand, he suddenly realised who he was.*

*He looked at the other people in the room. A young woman was blowing her nose. She probably had a bad cold. There was a child who was complaining while his father was talking on his mobile phone. Most of the other people in the room were reading magazines.*

## DEDUCTIONS

- a The events described using the Past Continuous start *before* / *at the same time* as the events described using the Past Simple.
- b The verbs in the Past Continuous describe actions or situations that last *for a shorter* / *for a longer* period of time than the actions in the Past Simple.
- c The actions or situations described using the Past Continuous *provide background information* / *interrupt a background event*.

5 Look at these sentences and fill in each gap with the correct form of one of the verbs in the box. Use each verb once only.

celebrate	do	drop	eat	get
have	live	ring	run	watch

- 1 On the day that Brian \_\_\_\_\_ his 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday, one of his sisters \_\_\_\_\_ in New York and the other \_\_\_\_\_ a baby, so they couldn't come to his party.
- 2 While Sharon and Bill \_\_\_\_\_ their breakfast, the phone \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Jane \_\_\_\_\_ to catch the bus, when she \_\_\_\_\_ her purse on the ground.
- 4 When he \_\_\_\_\_ back home, his mother \_\_\_\_\_ the housework and his brother \_\_\_\_\_ TV.

## COMMUNICATE

### Pair Work

- 6 Play this game with your partner. Decide who is going to be A and who is going to be B.
- student A, use a verb in the Past Continuous, as in the example, and expression 1 to start off a sentence
  - student B, use a verb in the Past Simple, as in the example, and complete the sentence in a suitable way
  - continue with expressions 2-5, then exchange roles but think of different things to say

- 1 last night at 8 pm
- 2 last Sunday
- 3 the day before yesterday
- 4 on New Year's Eve
- 5 at school the other day

