

1 Choose the correct past tenses to complete the text.

I ¹**started / had started** my own business in 2006. I ²**left / had left** university the year before and ³**worked / was working** for a large supermarket, but I ⁴**had felt / felt** very bored with my job. One day, while I ⁵**helped / was helping** a friend to design his website, I suddenly ⁶**realised / had realised** that I could earn some money from my website design skills. I ⁷**was doing / had done** a short web design course before I ⁸**went / was going** to university and ⁹**was really enjoying / had really enjoyed** it. My business ¹⁰**was growing / grew** very quickly and, in 2008, I ¹¹**left / was leaving** my supermarket job and ¹²**started / was starting** to work full-time as a website designer.

2 The underlined verbs are in the wrong tense. Rewrite the sentences using the correct past tense.

1 While she was studying German at university, she was meeting her future husband.

5 They finished their meal and then had watched a film on TV.

2 Before they had left the house, they had closed all the windows.

6 It rained and the streets were dark and cold.

3 We were walking to the bus stop and took the first bus into town.

7 I got my first job before I was leaving school.

4 Jon didn't buy any coffee earlier, so they drank tea.

8 Stella was listening to some music when she had heard a noise outside.

3 a Complete the sentences with your own ideas. On a separate piece of paper, write one clue for each sentence.

1 Before I left home this morning, I had already ...

2 I hadn't ... before I got home yesterday.

3 I was ... at half past nine last night.

4 I was ... at eight o'clock this morning.

5 Last weekend, I ...

6 Yesterday I ...

1 two cups

2 text

3 watch

4 sister

5 play

6 music

3 b **SPEAKING** Read your partner's clues and try to guess their sentences.

I think before you left home this morning, you had already drunk two cups of coffee.

No! Before I left home this morning, I had already broken two cups!