

Short stories with Mixed Tenses 2 - Be careful - some verbs are in the NEGATIVE!

A It's Saturday afternoon: John and Mary are in the kitchen.

John: Have you seen my car keys?

see

Mary: *No, I haven't.*

John: I'm sure I left them on the table in the hall.

leave

Mary: *Perhaps you did, but I haven't seen them.*

do - see

John: Can I borrow your keys, then?

Mary: *No, you can't!*

be able to

John: Why not?

Mary: *Because I've lost mine, too!*

lose

B It's Sunday afternoon:

Mary: Are you still doing that jigsaw puzzle?

do

John: *Yes. It is taking me a long time.*

take

Mary: But you started it hours ago!

start

John: *I know, and I have only done half of it.*

do

Mary: I did the same puzzle last week and it only took me an hour!

do - take

John: *Yes, but you're much cleverer than me!*

Mary: Well, we agree on one thing at least

C Mum is talking to Jamie:

Mum: Have you tidied your room yet?

tidy

Jamie: *No, I haven't.*

Mum: Why not?

Jamie: *Well, I'm busy!*

be

Mum: But you're just playing a computer game!

play

Jamie: *As I said, I'm busy!*

be

Mum: Well, you can't go out until you've done it.

be able to - do

Jamie: *Don't worry, Mum. I'm going to do it in a minute.*

do

D Molly writes her diary

I'm sitting in our hotel room here in Shanghai after an exciting day. We have just got back from a visit to the science museum. It was great. We went there on a super modern underground. There was so much to do and see in the museum. I had a great time. Dad bought me a remote-control tractor. After the museum visit we went to a restaurant and ate noodles. I have never tasted noodles before, and I liked them very much. We have been here for six days now, but we still have a lot to see and do. Tomorrow we are going to catch the plane to Beijing!