

Tense Practice

- 1 I * late leaving the pub last night and when I finally * (get) to the station the last train * just * (leave). I * (want) to get a taxi, but the driver * (tell) me this * (cost) 25€. I * enough money on me as I * (spend) too much in the pub so in the end I * (have to) walk home. When I * to my flat I found that I * (leave) my house keys in the pub My wife * (go) to bed and I * (able to) phone her because I * no more units on my mobile; I * (use) them all up earlier in the day * (call) our daughter in Australia.
- 2 I took my son to the swimming-pool last Saturday but when we * (arrive) I * (find) that I * (leave) my swimming trunks at home. He's 9 years old so he * (able to) go in on his own while I * (watch) from the restaurant! But after 45 minutes he * (have) enough and * (get) out. When he * (get) changed I * (take) him to MacDonald's. Unfortunately, I then * (find) that I * (leave) my wallet at the swimming-pool so we * (have to) go back to try to get it. When we * (arrive) I *(ask) the cashier if anyone * (give) in a wallet but she said that nothing * (hand) in. So not only * we not * (go to MacDonalds but also I * (have to) waste a lot of time * (get) a new driving licence and credit cards I wish I * (be) more careful.
- 3 I had a brilliant idea for a new machine last year but when I * (go) to the patent office to register it I * (find) that someone else * (think) of it before me. That was a pity because I * (work) on my idea for quite a long time and I * also * quite a lot of money on a model that I * (make) in my workshop.
- 4 I got a 5 in my last English test because I * (work) enough in the previous three weeks. I now wish that I * (work) a bit harder instead of * (waste) my time.
- 5 I saw an accident in the High Street yesterday and * to a local shop to ask them to call 999. When I * (return) to the scene I * (see) that an ambulance * already * (arrive).
- 6 The Pilgrims on "The Mayflower" (to be) not the first to arrive on the East Coast of America. Quite a lot of explorers * (arrive) there long before them.
- 7 I did the London Marathon last year but once we * (start) running I * (realize) that I * (not do) enough training and after 15km I * (have to) give up. It * (to be) stupid really. Friends * (warn) me that I * (have) difficulty completing the course, but I * (not listen).
- 8 When I * (get) home last night I * (find) that someone (break) into the house while I * (be) away. Actually, I * only * (be) out for about half an hour. I * around and * realize) that the burglars * (get) in through the back door by * a small window. Stupidly, I * (leave) the key in the lock.
- 9 My wife * (phone) me at work yesterday and * (tell) me yesterday that her mother * (have) an accident and was * (operate) on in a local hospital. I * (ask) if it * (be) serious but she said it * (be) too early to say. I asked what * (happen) and she said that her mother * (drive) along a country road and a tractor * (turn) out of a side road without looking properly. She * (try) to stop but * she * (go) too fast and * (able to) prevent her car from * (hit) the tractor.
- 10 I had to go to Africa last month but when I * (check) my passport I * (find) that it * (be) out of date. As time * (be) short I * (download) an application form from the internet and * (fill) it in before * (go) to the passport office. When I * (get) there the clerk told me that I * (fill) in the form incorrectly and that in any case it * (not be) the right form. I * (ask) if there was anything I * (able to) do and he * (say) I * (able to) pay some extra money for the "fast-track" process. So I finally * (get) my passport but I * (have to) pay more than I should have because of the mistakes I * (make).