

Chapter 3. Verbs: Expressing the Past

Exercise 1. Rewrite the following passage using the **simple past tense** of the verbs given in the brackets:

One day Gopal's boss _____ (send) him a passage with the request that he should find out who the writer of the passage _____ (be).

Gopal _____ (glance) through the passage. He _____ (not know) the writer. First he _____ (scan) various books in the library. Then he _____ (seek) help from the internet. He even _____ (pore) over the translations of ancient manuscripts but _____ (not find) any valuable clue. He thought that his boss would consider him an ignorant fool. It _____ (make) him quite anxious but he _____ (have) to give up.

"Sorry, Sir. I could not identify the writer," he _____ (say).

"That's all right, Gopal," said his boss. "Actually I _____ (write) it myself. I simply _____ (want) to make sure that nobody else had written something similar."

Exercise 2. Fill in the blanks with the **simple past** or the **present perfect** tense of the verbs given in the brackets:

1. When I _____ (go) to Haridwar last year, I _____ (visit) Dehradun and Mussoorie also.
2. The Principal _____ (just finish) the round of the school and _____ (return) to her office.
3. I _____ (see) almost all the historical places of Delhi when I _____ (be) a child. But I _____ (not see) the Qutab Minar yet.
4. The Chief Minister _____ (inaugurate) the new water plant last month. But they _____ (not start) supplying water from it.
5. When the sun _____ (rise) in the morning, the sky _____ (be) clear and the weather _____ (be) quite pleasant. But soon it _____ (become) cloudy and dark.
6. You should drive very cautiously because the authorities _____ (begin) to enforce the traffic rules strictly.
7. Last month the authorities _____ (begin) to enforce the traffic rules strictly and challaned many drivers.



Exercise 3. Rewrite the following passage using the **present perfect tense** of the verbs in the brackets:

I _____ (just see) the current issue of the *Evening News*. I am very pleased to read that the athletes of our school _____ (give) a great performance at the district sports meet. Surabhi of our school _____ (win) three gold and two silver medals. In 400 m, she _____ (set) a new national record. The entire school _____ (hail) her feat. Even the Chief Minister _____ (congratulate) her on this rare achievement. The *Evening News* _____ (publish) her photograph on the front page. The Principal _____ (announce) a special prize for her. We are all proud of Surabhi, who _____ (bring) great glory to the school.

Exercise 4. Rewrite the following passage using the **simple past** or the **past perfect tense** of the verbs given in the brackets:

Abdul _____ (reach) the Feroze Shah Kotla ground quite late. He _____ (hope) to get the tickets easily, but on reaching there, he _____ (find) that they _____ (already close) the booking window. Most of the spectators _____ (take) their seats. Michael Clarke _____ (win) the toss and _____ (decide) to bat first. Indian fielders _____ (come) out to the field. Australian openers _____ (arrive) at the crease. The Ten Sports _____ (start) the telecast. Luckily, one of Abdul's friends _____ (have) a spare ticket and Abdul _____ (be) able to see the match.