

Introductory note and instructions

These worksheets provide practice with **past simple** and **past continuous** tenses and **questions**. A bank robbery situation is introduced and the tasks set the scene for an alibis game. There are **six** sheets including answers.

1 Pairwork: jigsaw gap fill. Students complete a gapped news report of a bank robbery by asking their partners for missing information.

2 Individual or pairs: vocabulary gap fill. Students complete a short paragraph about the follow up to the robbery by filling gaps for key vocabulary with first-letter prompts.

3 Individual or pairs: question-making task. Students complete a script of a police interrogation by providing appropriate questions for given answers.

4 Pairs: alibi preparation. Students imagine they are a suspect in the robbery investigation just introduced. Their partner is their alibi. They have 5 minutes to concoct a plausible account of what they were doing together.

5 Whole class or large groups: alibis game. Each pair is interrogated by the class. To do this, one of the pair leaves the room while the class has a set time (2 or 3 minutes) to interrogate the other student. The student who has left the room then comes in and the one who has been interrogated leaves. The class repeat the question to check if the stories match.

Student A

1A Making questions and completing a news report

Read the news report about a bank robbery. Some of the information is missing. What sort of information do you think it is?

Yesterday afternoon just before (1) _____, a gang of robbers rushed into the King Street branch of United Bank and stole an estimated (2) \$ _____ along with valuables from safe deposit boxes. Eye witnesses saw (3) _____ men enter the building. They carried hand guns and wore stocking masks over their faces.

When a security guard tried to (4) _____ the men, they (5) _____ him. The guard is now (6) _____. The gang then forced the customers and staff to lie on the floor while the robbery was taking place.

Police arrived within ten minutes but so far have little information to work on. The men escaped in a (7) _____ which police later found in a back street about two kilometers from the bank.

Questions

You are going to find out the missing information from another student who has a different version of the story. First, complete the questions below. You will need these to ask the other student.

- 1 When _____?
- 2 How much _____?
- 3 How many _____?
- 4 What _____?
- 5 What _____?
- 6 Where _____?
- 7 How _____?

Student B

1B Making questions and completing a news report

Read the news report about a bank robbery. Some of the information is missing. What sort of information do you think it is?

Yesterday afternoon just before closing time, a gang of robbers rushed into the King Street branch of (1) _____ Bank and stole an estimated \$5,000,000 in cash along with (2) _____. Eye witnesses saw four men enter the building. They carried (3) _____ and wore (4) _____ over their faces.

When a security guard tried to stop the men, they shot him. The guard is now recovering in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The gang then forced (5) _____ to lie on the floor while the robbery was taking place.

Police arrived (6) _____ but so far have little information to work on. The men escaped in a stolen blue Toyota, which the police later found in (7) _____.

Questions

You are going to find out the missing information from another student who has a different version of the story. First, complete the questions below. You will need these to ask the other student.

- 1 Which _____?
- 2 What _____?
- 3 What _____?
- 4 What _____?
- 5 Who _____?
- 6 When _____?
- 7 Where _____?

2: What happened next? Vocabulary

Complete the summary of what happened next with suitable words. The first letter of each word is given.

After the robbery, the police i_____ all of the staff and customers at the bank so that they could get a d_____ of the men. The following day they a_____ Ronnie in a bar where he was spending a lot of money. They h_____ him, so he couldn't run away, and took him to the police station where Detective Inspector Chan asked him a lot of questions.

3 At the police station - an interview

Detective Inspector Chan interviews Ronnie at the police station. Read Ronnie's answers. What do you think D I Chan's questions were? Write them in the spaces provided.

1 **D I Chan** _____?

Ronnie I was in a restaurant in Soho.

2 **D I Chan** _____?

Ronnie I was with my mates – Knuckles Davey and Four Finger Wu, and my girlfriend Pauline.

3 **D I Chan** _____?

Ronnie The Fat Duck in West Street.

4 **D I Chan** _____?

Ronnie About 2. 30.

5 **D I Chan** _____?

Ronnie About 5.30

6 **D I Chan** _____?

Ronnie Seafood spaghetti, chicken pie, French fries and ice-cream.

7 **D I Chan** _____?

Ronnie No, we were the only customers.

8 **D I Chan** _____?

Ronnie Blue jeans and a yellow T-shirt.

9 **D I Chan** _____?

Ronnie I paid. It came to \$35.

10 **D I Chan** _____?

Ronnie Kuckles and Four Finger went to the horse race at Happy Valley, and Pauline and I went to the cinema.

4 Making questions

Think of five more questions that the police could ask Ronnie.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____

How will they know if Ronnie is telling the truth?

Who are Ronnie's alibis?

5 Role-play: alibis game

Imagine that you are a suspect in the robbery and your partner is your alibi. You have **five minutes** to invent a story about where you were and what you did yesterday afternoon. The other students will then question you while your partner leaves the room. Then you will leave the room and they will question your partner. If your answers to their questions are the same, you can go free; if they are different, you'll be 'doing time' in prison.

Answers**1 Making questions and completing a news report****Questions - A**

- 1 What time/when did the robbery happen?
- 2 How much did they steal?
- 3 How many robbers were there?
- 4 What did the security guard do?
- 5 What did the robbers do to him?
- 6 Where is he now?
- 7 How did the robbers escape?

Questions - B

- 1 Which bank was robbed? / Which bank did they rob?
- 2 What did they steal apart from the cash?
- 3 What did the robbers carry?
4. What did they wear over their faces?
- 5 Who did the men force to lie on the floor?
- 6 When did the police arrive?
- 7 Where did they find the car?

Answers

2: What happened next? Vocabulary

After the robbery, the police **interviewed** all of the staff and customers at the bank so that they could get a **description** of the men. The following day they **arrested** Ronnie in a bar where he was spending a lot of money. They **handcuffed** him, so he couldn't run away, and took him to the police station where Detective Inspector Chan asked him a lot of questions.

3: At the police station - an interview

1 D I Chan: **Where were you yesterday around five o'clock?**

Ronnie: I was in a restaurant in Soho.

2 D I Chan: **Who were you with?**

Ronnie: I was with my mates – Kuckles Davey and Four Finger Wu, and my girlfriend Pauline.

3 D I Chan: **Which restaurant did you go to? / What is the name of the restaurant?**

Ronnie: The Fat Duck in West Street.

4 D I Chan: **What time did you get there?**

Ronnie: About 2. 30.

5 D I Chan: **What time did you leave?**

Ronnie: About 5.30

6 D I Chan: **What did you have to eat?**

Ronnie: Seafood spaghetti, chicken pie, French fries and ice-cream.

7 D I Chan: **Were there many people in the restaurant? / Was it busy in the restaurant?**

Ronnie: No, we were the only customers.

8 D I Chan: **What did you wear yesterday?**

Ronnie: Blue jeans and a yellow T-shirt.

9 D I Chan: **Who paid the bill and how much was it?**

Ronnie: I paid. It came to \$ 35.

10 D I Chan: **What did you do after you left the restaurant?**

Ronnie: Knuckles and Four Finger went to the horse race at Happy Valley, and Pauline and I went to the cinema.