

# Total English

Intermediate

## Thinking about the past

- 1 Read the following sentences and underline the correct tense in each one.
  - 1 David Beckham *had not played / didn't play* for a Spanish team before he joined Real Madrid.
  - 2 Ellen MacArthur *had sailed / sailed* round the world and *had completed / completed* the voyage successfully.
  - 3 She *was missing / missed* her family when she *was going / went* to university.
  - 4 My father *was reminding / had reminded* us of how determined Jen was, just as she *was winning / won* the race.
  - 5 He *travelled / was travelling* in New Zealand when he *had met / met* Millie. He *had never felt / never felt* like this before!
  - 6 She *didn't intend / hadn't intended* to work at the pub, but she *needed / had needed* to earn extra cash for her course.
  - 7 He *inspired / was inspiring* many people during his short life.
  - 8 We *talked / were talking* about how inspiring our coach was, when he *was walking / walked* into the changing room.
  
- 2 In pairs discuss the six questions. Use a variety of past tenses: Past Simple, Past Perfect and the Past Continuous while you are speaking.
  - 1 Which famous person (or not) has inspired you in your life and why?
  - 2 Which skill have you been encouraged to develop most in your life?
  - 3 What is the bravest thing you have ever done? Describe it.
  - 4 Have you ever been involved in any sort of large project? What was involved?
  - 5 What was your favourite time of year as a child and why?
  - 6 Which century would you have liked to live in apart from this one?
  
- 3 Choose four of the questions your partner answered. Write down their answer in as much detail as possible using the Past Simple, Past Perfect and the Past Continuous. Return your work to your partner so they can check the facts and make any corrections if necessary.

# Total English

Intermediate

## *Thinking about the past*

### **TEACHER'S NOTES:**

**Aim:** to provide further practice of the review of past tenses and different types of numbers. This worksheet is designed to be used in conjunction with unit 10.2.

**Time:** 40 minutes

**Materials:** photocopies of the worksheet for each student

- 1 Students read sentences and underline the correct tense. Give students time to compare their answers, then elicit answers from the students.

**Answers:** 1 had not played 2 sailed/completed 3 missed/went  
4 was reminding/won 5 was travelling/met/had never  
6 hadn't intended/had needed 7 inspired 8 were talking/walked

- 2 Students read the questions that they are going to ask their partner. All the questions are designed to elicit information that will need to be explained in past tenses. Get students to take turns to ask their partner the questions. Monitor as they work and prompt where necessary.
- 3 Either as a class activity or homework activity, tell students to write a summary of their partner's answers to the questions in Ex. 2 using the Past Simple, Past Perfect and the Past Continuous. Collect them at the end of class/next lesson for marking.