

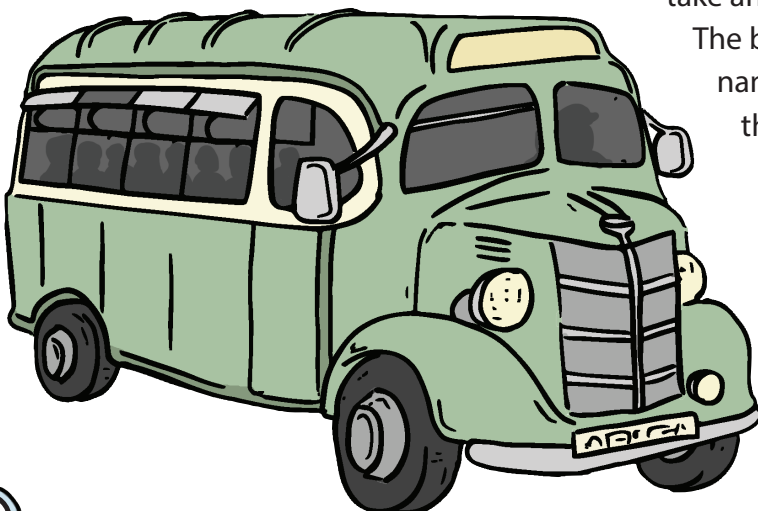
Kenneth wanted to know why I had changed my name. I hadn't had time to think of a good enough reason, so I tried to avoid the question. But Kenneth wouldn't let it go: he was like a dog with a bone. So I told him a story that I thought he would buy. I did consider telling him the truth, but it sounded so far-fetched that I didn't think he would believe it anyway. So I told him that I had changed my name because the police were after me; that had been the reason why the policeman at Wilmslow station had checked all our names. I explained that both my parents had died in the war and that I had been adopted by my cruel uncle and his wife who would often beat me and lock me in the under-stairs cupboard. (No prizes if you can guess where I got this idea from.) I told him that I had run away from their house in the middle of the night, just before the air raid had started. I explained that I had tried telling people about how I was being treated, but nobody believed me. If they discovered who I really was, I would be sent back and severely punished. I asked him to help me keep my secret.

Kenneth thought about it for a while and then nodded his head. He agreed he would help me, but he didn't think it would be long before one of the other children gave me away. I had to agree with him. However, what Kenneth didn't know was that I wasn't planning on staying there for long. I had decided that I needed to get back to Hulme and find my mobile; that was the key to returning to the future where I belonged.

The bus was old and the ride was slow and bumpy, but it wasn't long before we had left the town behind and were driving through open countryside. The buses had gone off in different directions since leaving the town and we felt very much alone. We remained in silence for the rest of the journey, just gloomily staring out of the grimy windows at the hedgerows and farms along the way. Before long we reached another small town, which I later learnt was called Handforth, where we were ushered out of the bus and into the village hall.

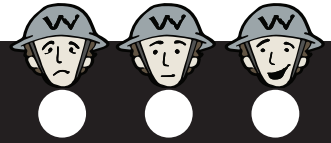
Chairs had been arranged in rows along the far end and a woman, called a billeting officer, told us to sit down and wait for our names to be called out. This was the bit I dreaded. I had answered to Duncan Spooner back at the station without causing comment: most of the children had been either too excited or too nervous to notice. But now, as we waited in silence, I was sure that one of the children would realise and report me as an imposter. A large group of adults had come into the hall. They were the families who had agreed to take an evacuee into their homes.

The billeting officer worked through our names in alphabetical order and by the time they got to my name (my adopted name) I was relieved to discover I was the only child left in the hall. The billeting officer called out the last name in the register, and there was nobody left in the hall to say that I wasn't Duncan Spooner.





Name: _____



I can use the past perfect tense to mark relationships of time.

We use the **past perfect** tense to make it clear that one event in the past took place before another event in the past.

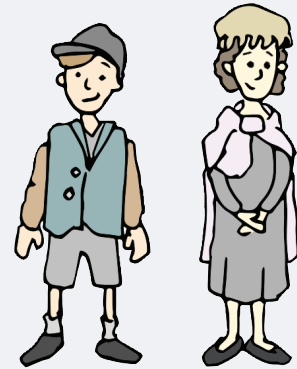
I explained that both my parents had died in the war.

I explained is written in the **simple past**.

Both my parents had died in the war is written in the **past perfect** to show that this happened further in the past.

The passive voice can also be used with the past perfect.

Chairs had been arranged in rows along the far end.



Complete the sentences with either the simple past or the past perfect form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 When the evacuees reached the village hall a crowd of people outside.
(gather)
- 2 The children down on a row of chairs that had been set out in the hall.
(sit)
- 3 Ladies the children sandwiches which had been cut into little triangles.
(offer)
- 4 Kenneth his packed lunch on the train, but still managed to eat some more.
(eat)
- 5 Drew had taken one out of politeness, but it untouched on the plate.
(leave)
- 6 Drew felt too nervous to eat from the moment they at the village hall.
(arrive)
- 7 Kenneth up after his name had been called out.
(stand)
- 8 He went out with a kindly-looking man who him warmly by the hand.
(shake)
- 9 After all the other children's names had been read out, Drew a sigh of relief.
(breath)
- 10 A lady entered the hall; she late.
(arrive)
- 11 The billeting officer to Drew when she had ticked off the name in the register.
(point)
- 12 The lady turned and left the building, but not before a man in a chauffeur's uniform up Drew's two suitcases.
(pick)

Extension Make up your own story to explain why Drew changed names using the past perfect tense.





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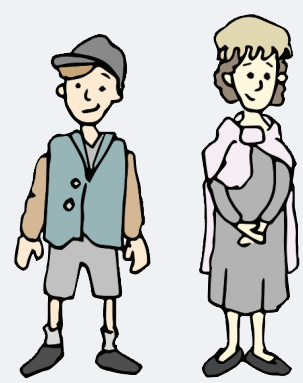
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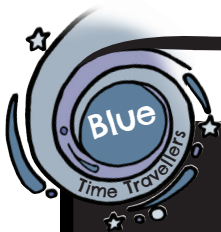


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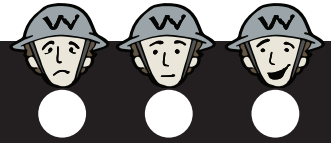
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(eat) (manage)
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(take) (leave)
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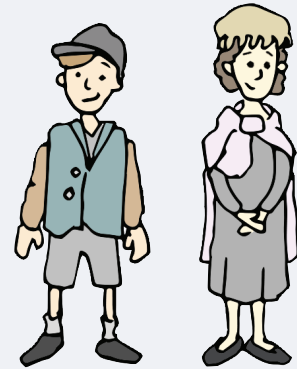
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Extension Make up your own story for Drew adopting a new name using the past perfect tense.