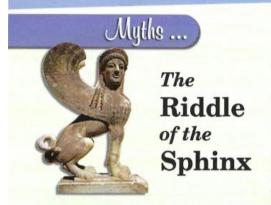
## Past tenses

## Past Simple & Past Continuous

a) Read the text below. Underline the verbs in the past simple and circle the verbs in the past continuous. Which past simple verbs are regular? Which are irregular?



A long time ago in ancient Greece, so the story goes, a creature called the Sphinx sat on a big rock outside the city of Thebes. The Sphinx was a very strange creature. She had the body of a lion, the wings of a bird and the head of a woman. The Sphinx was also a very bad creature. When someone walked past her, she asked them a riddle: "What walks on 4 legs in the morning, 2 legs in the afternoon, and 3 legs in the evening?" The sphinx killed any person who didn't know the answer to her riddle. The city of Thebes was like a prison. No one wanted to enter or leave the city because they had to walk past the Sphinx. One day, a young man called Oedipus 1) was travelling through Greece. He 2) was entering the city of Thebes when the Sphinx stopped him and asked him

her riddle. 3) While Oedipus was thinking, the Sphinx was laughing to herself. "He doesn't know the answer!" she thought. But Oedipus was a very clever man. He thought for a moment, smiled and said "The answer to your riddle is: A man. A man crawls when he is a baby, walks on two feet when he is an adult, and walks with a cane when he is old." The Sphinx was so angry that Oedipus knew the answer that 4) she jumped off her rock, fell to the ground, and died. When the people of Thebes heard that the Sphinx was dead they all cheered. They were so happy that they 5) made Oedipus their king.

## Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the past continuous.

- 1 Last year we ..... (travel) to Germany on holiday.
- 2 Anna ...... (drink) tea at four o'clock yesterday afternoon.
- 4 Sam ..... (pat) the dog when it ..... (bite) him.
- 5 What ...... (you/do) when the fire started?

## Underline the correct item.

- 1 Emma had/was having a barbecue at her house last Sunday.
- 2 Dylan was taking/talked on the phone while Claire was cooking/cooked dinner.
- 3 James was working/worked in his garden all day yesterday.
- 4 Keith was walking/walked down the street when it started/was starting to snow.
- 5 Pablo Picasso painted/was painting lots of beautiful pictures.
- 6 Joe didn't come/wasn't coming to work yesterday.