

## Mingling puzzle: Past perfect and past simple

by Jill Hadfield

<b>Level:</b> Upper Intermediate
<b>Target age:</b> Secondary/adult
<b>Time needed:</b> 20 minutes
<b>Grammar objective:</b> To practise the past perfect and past simple
<b>Materials:</b> Clue cards
<b>Summary:</b> This is an accuracy-based mingling puzzle to practise the past perfect and past simple.

### Procedure

1. Copy and cut up a set of the clue cards for your class.
2. Give a clue card to each student. There are 20 clue cards and you will need to use them all. If you have fewer than 20 students in your class, give some students two (adjacent) clue cards. If you have more than 20, put some students in pairs to share a card.
3. Tell students that some of the cards have information about John's day, some have information about Alice's day. At some point John and Alice met and decided to go out to dinner. The aim of the puzzle is to find out where John and Alice could have met each other.
4. To do this, students should:
  - a. sort themselves into two groups: John's day and Alice's day;
  - b. exchange information on their cards to arrange themselves in chronological order from the beginning of the day to the end;
  - c. tell the other group about the events of the day and work out where Alice and John met.

*Answer: They met at Susie and Tom's.*

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John got up at 8 am and ate breakfast.

After he had eaten breakfast, he caught the 769 bus to town.

After he had got off the bus, he walked up Queen Street and went to a bookshop.

He stayed in the bookshop for an hour and bought three books.

After he had bought the books, he went to La Vista for a coffee.

After he had had a coffee, he spent a couple of hours at an art exhibition in the Art Gallery.

At 12.30 pm, after he had been to the exhibition, he went to Bar Comida for lunch.

After he had finished lunch, he went to a film at the Rialto Cinema.

After he had seen the film, he caught the 306 bus to see his friends, Susie and Tom.

After he had left Susie and Tom's, he went for dinner with Alice.  
WHERE DID HE MEET HER?

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FUN WITH GRAMMAR CLUE CARDS: ALICE'S DAY



Alice got up at 8 am and ate breakfast.

After she had eaten breakfast, she caught the 770 bus to town.

After she had got off the bus, she walked up High Street and went to an exhibition in the Art Gallery.

She stayed in the gallery for an hour or so and bought some postcards.

After she had been to the gallery, she went to Annabelle's for a coffee.

After she had had a coffee, she went to a bookshop on Queen Street and looked at books for an hour, then went clothes shopping.

At 12.30 pm, after she had been shopping, she met a friend on a Japanese restaurant and ate sushi.

After they had finished lunch, they went to a film at the Lido Cinema.

After they had seen the film, she said goodbye to her friend and caught the 770 bus home. On the way back she popped in to see her neighbours, Susie and Tom.

After she had left Susie and Tom's, she went for dinner with John.  
WHERE DID SHE MEET HIM?