

# Past Actions

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# UNIT 2

## *Objectives*



On Completion of this unit you will be able to –

- talk about past events
- use sometime adverbs such as 'yesterday', last years, etc.
- make statements, questions and answers with past actions
- recognise and use past simple and progressive tenses in reading and writing
- answer some questions about yourself using past tenses
- answer some question about yourself using past tenses

## *Overview*

**Lesson 1 :** Yesterday

**Lesson 2 :** A Writer

**Lesson 3 :** A Story

**Lesson 4 :** Revision and Test

**ANSWER KEY**

# Yesterday

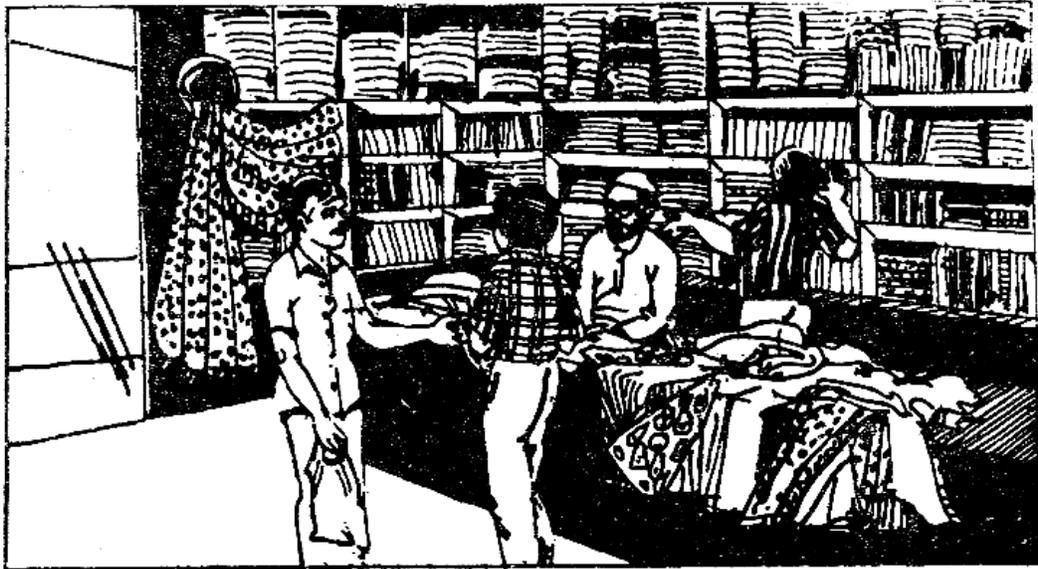
## LESSON

# 1

A



*Look at the picture and read the passage.*



Today is Saturday. Hasan is getting ready for work early today. Yesterday **was** Friday. Hasan **got** up late. He ate rice and fish curry for breakfast and **put** on his best clothes – a blue shirt and brown trousers.

Hasan never goes to his shop on Fridays. So he went to the bus stop and **took** a bus to Dhaka. Hasan **reached** Dhaka at 10 am. At first he **went** to his friend Jahid at Azimpur. Jahid was not at home at that time. However, he soon **came** back with a lot of shopping.

Hasan and Jahid **drank** some tea and **went** to New Market. There Hasan **bought** a sari for his mother and a punjabi for his father. He **chose** a yellow T-shirt for Rafiq. But Jahid **did not like** the colour. So they finally **bought** a red T-shirt for Rafiq.



**Read and note.**

1. Verb forms

Present form (always, now, etc.)		Past form (yesterday, last week, etc.)
He/She	I/We/You/They	He/She/I/We/You/They
gets	get	got
eats	eat	ate
wears	wear	wore
goes	go	went
takes	take	took
reaches	reach	reached
comes	come	came
drinks	drink	drank
buys	buy	bought
chooses	choose	chose

2. Making Questions



**Look at these statements, questions and answers.**

Statement : Hasan **got** up late.  
 Question : **Did** Hasan **get up** late ?  
 Answer : Yes, he **did**.

Statement : Jahid was not at home.  
 Question : **Was** Jahid at home ?  
 Answer : No, he **wasn't**.

We begin this type of questions (এ তিন ধরনের প্রশ্ন) with **Did, Was, Were, Had** etc. and we answer them with **Yes** or **No**. They are Yes / No questions.



**Look at these statements and questions again.**

Statement : Hasan wore his best clothes.  
 Question : What did Hasan wear ?

Statement : Hasan went to Dhaka.  
 Question : Where did Hasan go ?

We begin this type of questions with **What, Where, When, How, Why** etc. They are **Wh-questions**.

**Make both Yes / No and Wh-questions from these statements and then answer them. Use information from the passage in A.**



- 1 Statement : Yesterday was Friday.  
 Question : Was yesterday Friday ? (Yes / No)  
 Answer : Yes, it was.  
 Question : What was yesterday ? (Wh-)  
 Answer : It was Friday.
  
- 2 Statement : Hasan ate rice and fish curry.  
 Question : Did Hasan eat ..... ?  
 Answer : Yes, he did.  
 or  
 Question : What did Hasan eat ?  
 Answer : Hasan ate rice and fish curry.
  
- 3 Statement : Hasan went to the bus stop.  
 Question : ..... ?  
 Answer : .....
  
- 4 Statement : Hasan reached Dhaka at 10 am.  
 Question : ..... ?  
 Answer : .....
  
- 5 Statement : Jahid did a lot of shopping.  
 Question : ..... ?  
 Answer : .....
  
- 6 Statement : Hasan and Jahid drank some milk.  
 Question : ..... ?  
 Answer : .....
  
- 7 Statement : They went to New Market.  
 Question : ..... ?  
 Answer : .....
  
- 8 Statement : Hasan bought a sari for his aunt.  
 Question : ..... ?  
 Answer : .....
  
- 9 Statement : He bought a punjabi for his father.  
 Question : ..... ?  
 Answer : .....
  
- 10 Statement : Hasan chose a yellow T-shirt for Rafiq.  
 Question : ..... ?  
 Answer : .....
  
- 11 Statement : Jahid did not like the colour.  
 Question : ..... ?  
 Answer : .....



*Yesterday Salma did the things in **Box A** and did not do the things in **Box B**. Make sentences like the example. Use *but* or *and* to join the two sentences.*

A	B
1 eat a banana	drink coffee
2 watch TV	listen to the radio
3 write a letter to a friend	visit her other friend
4 stay at home	do her home work
5 do her homework	work in the garden
6 read a story	read her textbooks
7 help her mother with the cooking	go to the cinema
8 play badminton in the afternoon	play with her friend

**Example :**

- 1 Yesterday Salma ate a banana but she did not drink coffee.
- 2 .....
- 3 .....
- 4 .....
- 5 .....
- 6 .....
- 7 .....
- 8 .....



*Write about five things you did and five things you did not do yesterday.*

# A Writer

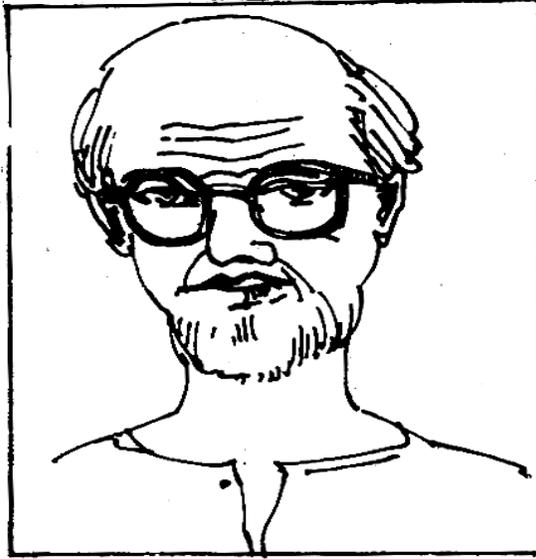
## LESSON

# 2

**A**



*Read this passage about Nousher Ali.*



Mr Nousher Ali was born in 1938 in a village in Mymensingh. As a child he was healthy and happy. He went to school at the age of 7. He passed the Matriculation Examination when he was 17. Then he joined a college in town. He did his BA degree at 21 and in the same year he got a job in a bank. Mr Ali married two years later. Within five or six years he became a very successful clerk at the bank. However, he did not like the job. In 1971 he left the bank and took a teaching job. Soon he became a good teacher. He taught for 15 years at the same school. Then he left teaching and became a writer. He writes novels and short stories. Now he is a famous writer.

**B**



*Read and Note.*

We can express past actions with the following phrases :

in 1938 / in 19__	at the age of 7 / at 7 / when he / she was 17
in the same year	: একই বছরে
two years later	: দুই বছর পরে
for 15 years	: ১৫ বছর ধরে
was born	: জন্মগ্রহণ করেছিলেন

healthy	:	স্বাস্থ্যবান
Matriculation Examination	:	বর্তমানে প্রচলিত SSC পরীক্ষার সমান
within five or six years	:	পাঁচ বা ছয় বছরের মধ্যে
successful clerk	:	সফল করণিক
however	:	যাই হোক, যা হোক
teaching job	:	শিক্ষকতা
successful	:	সার্থক
taught	:	(pt of teach) পড়িয়েছেন; শিক্ষকতা করেছেন
writer	:	লেখক
novel	:	উপন্যাস
short story	:	ছোট গল্প

## C



*There are four answers to each question / statement. Out of these four, only one answer is right / correct. Select the right answer and put a tick mark (✓) against it. No. 1 is done for you.*

- When did Nousher Ali go to school ?
  - In 1938.
  - ✓ b When he was 7.
  - At the age of 17.
  - When he was a child.
- Nousher Ali got a job in a bank
  - after he passed the Matriculation Examination.
  - when he was 17.
  - at the age of 21.
  - before he did his BA.
- When did Nousher Ali marry ?
  - When he was 23.
  - At the age of 21.
  - While he was a successful clerk at a bank.
  - Before he got a job at a bank.
- Nousher Ali left teaching
  - in 1971.
  - before he became a bank clerk.
  - in 1986.
  - when he did not like the job.
- Why did he leave teaching ?
  - To become a writer.
  - To become a bank clerk.
  - He did not like teaching.

d He retired from teaching.



Here are some events (ঘটনা) in the life of Mr Nesar Ahmed. Using these events (এই ঘটনাগুলো ব্যবহার করে) describe Mr Nesar Ahmed as shown in the example.

	Year	Event	Age	Description
1.	1948	born in a small town		Example : Mr Nesar Ahmed was born in a small town in 1948.
2.		started school	6	He started school when he was 6.
3.		left school	16	
4.	3 years later	shop assistant		
5.		married	25	
6.	1975	had a daughter		
7.	1 year later	a job in a departmental store in Dhaka		
8.	the same year	took his family to Dhaka		
9.	1985	opened a book store		



Try to remember (স্মরণ করা) some important events that happened in your life from age 9. Then describe what happened and when.

# A Story

## LESSON

# 3

**A**



*Read the questions and then read the passage and answer the questions.*

- 1 Who was Hazrat Omar (R) ?
- 2 Where did he usually go at night and why ?
- 3 What did he see in the hut one night ?
- 4 How did he help the woman ?



One evening Hasan told a story to his cousins – Runa and Rashed. Here is the story :

Hazrat Omar (R) was a great Caliph of the Muslim world. He was a kind-hearted and just ruler.

Usually he went round different places at night to see for himself the conditions of his people. He did it in disguise.

One night the Caliph was walking along as usual. Suddenly he heard some noise while he was passing by a hut. He went neat the hut and found that some children were sitting around a big pot. Their mother was cooking something in the pot. The children were hungry and they were crying for food. "What are you cooking?" the Caliph asked. The woman looked at his face helplessly and did not say anything. Then the Caliph found out that there was no food inside the pot. She was just boiling water. He was very sorry. He quickly came back to the 'National Store', took a bag of flour and carried it himself to the woman.

"Thank you, stranger", said the woman. "Thank you for your help. The Caliph should be as kind as you." In fact, the woman did not know that the stranger was the Caliph himself.

**B**



*Read and note.*

Caliph	:	খলিফা
just	:	ন্যায়পরায়ণ
ruler	:	শাসনকর্তা

to see for himself	:	নিজেই দেখার জন্য
condition	:	অবস্থা
in disguise	:	ছদ্মবেশে
as usual	:	যথারীতি
hut	:	কুঁড়েঘর
helplessly	:	অসহায়ভাবে
boil	:	জ্বাল দেয়া, সোদ্ধ করা
National Store	:	জাতীয় ভাণ্ডার
flour	:	আটা, ময়দা
stranger	:	আগন্তুক

## C



*Read these sentences carefully.*

- 1 The Caliph was walking alone.
- 2 The children were sitting around a big pot.

The verbs in bold express (প্রকাশ করে) that some action in the past (অতীত) was continuing (চলছিল) for sometime. This is the past continuous tense.

Notice the verb form :

Subject	verb form
I / He / She / Kamal	was walking.
We / You / They / the children	were walking.



*Now make a sentence from each group of words. Put the verb in the past continuous form. No. 3 is done for you.*

- 3 My parents / watch / TV / 10 pm.  
My parents were watching TV at 10 pm.
- 4 Kamal / write / a letter / to his friend  
.....
- 5 Shahana / cook / breakfast / 6.30 am  
.....
- 6 Mr Ali and his son / work / in the garden / 9 am  
.....
- 7 The child / sleep / in the cot  
.....
- 8 The boys / play football / afternoon  
.....
- 9 Mr Rahman / read / a newspaper / on the verandah  
.....
- 10 Salma and Nazma / listen to / a song / on the radio  
.....
- 11 Some people / wait / on the platform / for the 10.30 train  
.....



**Read the sentence carefully.**

1 He **heard** some noise when he **was passing** by a hut.

লক্ষ কাঁন, এই বাক্যে দুটো কাজ অতীতে ঘটেছে। একটি কাজ (he heard) শেষ হয়ে গেছে, আরেকটি কাজ (he was passing) অতীতে কিছুক্ষণ ধরে চলছিল। প্রথমটিতে past simple আর দ্বিতীয়টিতে past continuous ব্যবহৃত হয়েছে।



**Now put the right form of the verbs in brackets (past simple or past continuous). No 2 is done for you.**

2 I \_\_\_\_\_ (have) tea when my friend \_\_\_\_\_ (come)  
I was having tea when my friend came.

3 The Caliph \_\_\_\_\_ (find) that the children \_\_\_\_\_ (sit) around a pot.

.....

4 I \_\_\_\_\_ (take) a photograph of her while she \_\_\_\_\_ (dance).

.....

5 The Caliph \_\_\_\_\_ (see) the children in the hut. They \_\_\_\_\_ (cry).

.....

6 He \_\_\_\_\_ (ride) a bicycle when the accident \_\_\_\_\_ (happen).

.....

7 The phone \_\_\_\_\_ (ring) when I \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) breakfast.

.....

8 She \_\_\_\_\_ (fall) asleep last night when she \_\_\_\_\_ (watch) TV.

.....

9 He \_\_\_\_\_ (break) the spade when he \_\_\_\_\_ (work) in the garden.

.....

10 The plate \_\_\_\_\_ (slip) out of her hand and \_\_\_\_\_ (break) while she  
\_\_\_\_\_ (do) the washing up. (বাসনকোসন ধোয়া)

.....

11 Last night I \_\_\_\_\_ (write) a letter to my friend Kamal when I  
\_\_\_\_\_ (hear) a knock on the door. I \_\_\_\_\_ (open) the door and saw it  
\_\_\_\_\_ (be) Kamal.

.....

# Revision and Test

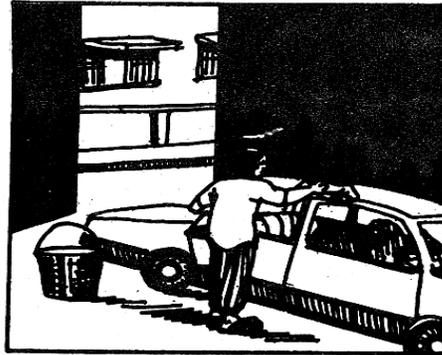
## LESSON

# 4

A



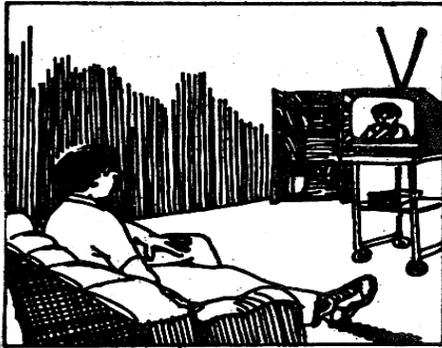
Look at each picture and answer the question : "What did Kamal do yesterday?" No. 1 is done for you.



1 Kamal cleaned the car.



2 He .....



3 .....



4 .....



5 .....



6 .....



7 .....



8 .....



9 .....



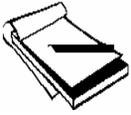
10 .....

**B**

*The following table shows some events in the life of Sher-e-Bangla A. K. Fazlul Huq with the years they took place. Make a sentence for each event. No. 1 is done for you.*

নিচের ছকে শেরে-বাংলা এ. কে. ফজলুল হকের জীবনের কিছু ঘটনা এবং যে বছর সেগুলো ঘটেছে তা দেখানো হয়েছে। প্রত্যেক ঘটনা সম্বন্ধে একটি করে বাক্য রচনা করুন।

	Event	Year	
1	birth at Chakhar	1873	He was born in 1873 at Chakhar.
2	Entrance Examination from Barisal Zilla School	1889	
3	F. A. Examination from Presidency College, Calcutta	1891	
4	M A in mathematics	1895	
5	first Muslim Mayor of the Calcutta Corporation	1934	
6	Chief Minister of undivided Bengal	1937	
7	Governor of former East Pakistan	from 1956 to 1958	
8	founder of many educational institutions	during his life-time	
9	death at Dhaka Medical College Hospital	1962	



## C

**Fill in the gaps with the right form of the verbs in brackets.**

Some years ago my friend Majed and I (go) .....1.... to see a film at the Modhumita Cinema Hall. When we (reach) .....2..... the Hall we find .....3..... that many people (stand) .....4..... in the queue (লাইন) for tickets. However, we (get) .....5..... two more expensive tickets from a different counter. It (be) .....6..... an old film called "Gone with the Wind". I (enjoy) .....7..... the film very much. But Majed (not/like) .....8..... it so much. He always (like) .....9..... comic films. Anyway, when the show (be) .....10..... over it (rain) .....11..... . So we (not/go) .....12.... out, because there (be) .....13..... no rickshaws on the road. Some people (go) .....14..... to the restaurant there for tea. We (decide) .....15..... to have some tea too.



## D

**Answer these questions about yourself, first orally then in writing.**

- 1 What did you do yesterday evening ?
- 2 Where did you do ?
- 3 Why did you do it ?
- 4 What time did you start ?
- 5 What time did you finish ?

**KEY** LESSON : 1

**C**

- 2 Q Did Hasan eat rice and fish curry ?  
A Yes, he did.
- 3 Q Did Hasan go to the bus stop ?  
A Yes, he did.  
or  
Q Where did Hasan go ?  
A To the bus stop.
- 4 Q Did Hasan reach Dhaka at 9 am ?  
A No, he didn't. (He reached Dhaka at 10 am)  
or  
Q When did Hasan reach Dhaka ?  
A At 10 am.
- 5 Q Did Jahid do a lot of shopping ?  
A Yes, he did.  
or  
Q What did Jahid do ?  
A He did a lot of shopping.
- 6 Q Did Hasan and Jahid drink some milk ?  
A No, they didn't.  
or  
Q What did Hasan and Jahid drink ?  
A Some tea.
- 7 Q Did they go to New Market ?  
A Yes, they did.  
or  
Q Where did they go ?  
A To New Market.
- 8 Q Did Hasan buy a sari for his aunt ?  
A No, he didn't.  
or  
Q What did Hasan buy for his aunt ?

A Nothing. (He bought a sari for his mother.)

9 Q Did he buy a punjabi for his father ?

A Yes, he did.

or

Q What did he buy for his father ?

A A punjabi.

10 Q Did Hasan choose a yellow T-shirt for Rafiq ?

A Yes, he did.

or

Q What did Hasan choose for Rafiq ?

A A yellow T-shirt. (He chose a yellow T-shirt for Rafiq.)



2 Yesterday Salma watched TV but she didn't listen to the radio.

3 Yesterday she wrote a letter to a friend but she did not visit her other friend.

4 Yesterday she stayed at home but she didn't do her homework.

5 Yesterday she did her homework but she did not work in the garden.

6 Yesterday she read a story book but she did not read her textbooks.

7 Yesterday she helped her mother with the cooking but she didn't go to the cinema.

8 Yesterday she played badminton in the afternoon but she didn't play with her friend.



Write the answers and show them to your tutor.

## LESSON : 2



2 c 3 a 4c 5 a



2 He started school at the age of 6. (or He started school when he was 6.)

3 He left school when he was 16.

4 He became a shop assistant 3 years later.

5 He married at 25.

6 He had a daughter in 1975.

7 One year later he got a job in a departmental store in Dhaka.

- 8 In the same year he took his family to Dhaka.
- 9 He opened a book store in 1985.

### ε

*Describe the events that happened in your life and show it to your tutor.*

## LESSON : 3

### A

- 1 Hazrat Omar (R) was a great Caliph.
- 2 He usually went round the houses of his people at night to see their conditions for himself.
- 3 One night he saw some children in a hut with their mother.
- 4 He gave her a bag of flour.

### C

- 4 Kamal was writing a letter to his friend.
- 5 Sahana was cooking breakfast at 6.30 am.
- 6 Mr Ali and his son were working in the garden at 9 am.
- 7 The child was sleeping in the cot.
- 8 The boys were playing football in the afternoon.
- 9 Mr Rahman was reading a newspaper on the verandah.
- 10 Salma and Nazma were listening to a song on the radio.
- 11 Some people were waiting on the platform for the 10.30 train.

### D

- |    |                                 |              |
|----|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 3  | found,                          | were sitting |
| 4  | took,                           | was dancing  |
| 5  | saw,                            | were crying  |
| 6  | was riding,                     | happened     |
| 7  | rang,                           | was eating   |
| 8  | fell,                           | was watching |
| 9  | broke,                          | was working  |
| 10 | slipped, broke,                 | was doing    |
| 11 | was writing, heard, opened, was |              |

## LESSON :4

### **A**

- 2 He wrote a letter.
- 3 He watched TV.
- 4 he talked on the phone.
- 5 he read a magazine.
- 6 he listened to the radio.
- 7 He played football.
- 8 He drew a picture.
- 9 He rode his bicycle.
- 10 He typed a letter.

### **B**

- 2 Sher-e-Bangla A. K. Fazlul Huq passed the Entrance Examination from Barisal Zilla School in 1889.
- 3 He passed the F. A. Examination from Presidency College, Calcutta in 1891.
- 4 He did his M A in mathematics in 1895.
- 5 He became the first Muslim Mayor of the Calcutta Corporation in 1934.
- 6 He became the Chief Minister of undivided Bengal in 1937.
- 7 He was Governor of former East Pakistan from 1956 to 1958.
- 8 He was founder of many educational institutions during his life-time.
- 9 He died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital in 1962.

### **C**

- |    |             |    |                        |
|----|-------------|----|------------------------|
| 1  | went        | 2  | reached                |
| 3  | found       | 4  | were standing          |
| 5  | got         | 6  | was                    |
| 7  | enjoyed     | 8  | did not like           |
| 9  | likes       | 10 | was                    |
| 11 | was raining | 12 | did not go (didn't go) |
| 13 | were        | 14 | were going             |
| 15 | decided     |    |                        |

### **D**

*Write the answers and show them to your tutor.*