

Oxford Discover 4 II and III hodina 2 2026 talking about abandoned cities and past events
0) Presentations and checking the town profiles and questions from your last week's worksheet.

1) Vocabulary revision

Exercise 1 massive explosion · shady streets · abandon · natural disaster · stone arch ·
artificial lake · carved · power station · forced to move · inhabitants

1. The earthquake was a _____, and many buildings were destroyed.
2. The tourists walked through a beautiful _____ over the entrance to the old temple.
3. The villagers were _____ when the volcano became dangerous.
4. The hotel had to _____ its old building and move to a safer place.
5. The _____ under the trees are much cooler on a hot summer day.
6. The government built an _____ to provide water for the nearby farms.
7. The dragons on the temple walls were beautifully _____ in stone.
8. A new _____ was built to produce electricity for the area.
9. The _____ of the town were moved to a new city.
10. A _____ in the factory destroyed several buildings and covered the streets with ash.

Exercise 2 miner · mine for gold · rush · run out · gunfighter · unemployment ·
nuclear power plant · a disaster struck · personal belongings · wild boar

1. In the 1800s, thousands of people _____ (= *went quickly*) to the American West to mine for gold.
2. The young _____ worked underground for ten hours every day.
3. People began to _____ to sell it and get rich.
4. The town became poor when the gold _____ and the mines closed.
5. In the Wild West, a _____ was a dangerous man who fought with a gun.
6. The town had very little _____ because most people could find jobs in the huge factory.
7. Homer Simpson works in a _____.
8. People were having a normal day when suddenly _____.
9. The residents left so quickly that they had to leave some of their _____ behind.
10. Visitors to the abandoned town sometimes see _____ and other animals walking through the empty streets.

Key:

Exercise 1: 1. natural disaster · 2. stone arch · 3. forced to move · 4. abandon · 5. shady streets · 6. artificial lake · 7. carved · 8. power station · 9. inhabitants · 10. massive explosion

Exercise 2: 1. rushed to · 2. miner · 3. mine for gold · 4. ran out · 5. gunfighter · 6. unemployment · 7. nuclear power plant · 8. a disaster struck · 9. personal belongings · 10. wild boar

2) Check your grammar homework from lesson 1 worksheet – Past Simple – Past Continuous

HW or in class: finish lesson 1 worksheet – the last page – Past Simple or Past Continuous?

3) Read about another town struck by a disaster.

A Town Left Behind

Before 2011, Namie was a lively town on the coast of Japan. It had shops, restaurants, schools and **busy** streets. Many people lived there for years and had their homes, jobs and everyday belongings there.

On 11 March 2011, a **huge** earthquake struck Japan. A massive tsunami followed and flooded parts of the town. Soon afterwards, the Fukushima nuclear accident made the situation even worse. People had to **leave behind** their homes and move away to safer areas.

Some **residents** thought they would return soon, so they left many of their **possessions** behind. But they could not **return** for a long time. Houses, shops and streets were left empty, and the once lively town became **abandoned** and deserted.

Today, some parts of Namie have reopened, and people are slowly returning. **Sadly**, however, many former residents have moved to other towns and built new lives there. The disaster changed Namie forever.

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Match the words below with synonyms from the text. They are the words **in bold**.

abandon deserted unfortunately belongings massive inhabitants come back lively

4) Ghost town

Cirueña is a new town in Spain with enough **modern** houses for 10,000 people. However, only 100 people live there. The other houses are empty, with no furniture or other **possessions**.

However, the houses haven't been **abandoned**. The residents didn't **move away** to other places – they never arrived. **Sadly**, after the houses were built in the early 2000s, the global financial crisis meant that no one bought them, and now no one wants to move to a ghost town.

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Match the words below with synonyms from the text. They are the words **in bold**. Two of the words are new.

unfortunately belongings relocate contemporary deserted

Complete each sentence with the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs in brackets. Use the past simple for the shorter action that interrupted the longer action.

1. We through the lively town centre when we a very impressive old building. (walk, notice)
2. She around her hometown when she a group of tourists. (cycle, see)
3. They the ancient streets when it to rain heavily. (explore, start)
4. I across the wide bridge when I something strange in the river. (walk, notice)
5. The residents alreadyto the hills when the river the lower part of the town. (move, flood)
6. We for an old house to buy when we a tiny abandoned village surrounded by grassy hills. (search, discover)
7. He along the riverbank when he his phone into water. (walk, drop)
8. They to protect the old buildings when the government them to relocate. (try, force)
9. While the inhabitants away from the flooded area, the government some emergency supplies. (move, bring)
10. I the sports complex when I an incredible view of the town. (photograph, get)

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Key to the Past Simple vs Past Continuous exercise:

1. were walking, noticed 2. was cycling, saw 3. were exploring, started 4. was walking, noticed 5. were moving, flooded
6. were searching, discovered 7. was walking, dropped 8. were trying, forced
9. were moving, searched 10. was photographing, got