

USING VARIOUS TENSES TO TELL A STORY AND/OR DESCRIBE A SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xvby6Z0vWmA>

NOT OKAY | Official Trailer | Searchlight Pictures

1) Video-Comprehension: watch the trailer to the film 'Not Okay'.



2) Reading: now look at this summary of the plot.

GET FAMOUS OR LIE TRYING

Danni Sanders **was working** as a Photo Editor at a digital media company called 'Depravity'. She **wanted** to become a writer but her boss **found** her articles 'tone deaf' and 'offensive' and **refused** to publish them. At the age of 27, Danni **had** no friends, no romantic prospects and — worst of all — no followers on Instagram. One day, she **decided** to use her advanced Photoshop skills to make people think she **was attending** a writers' retreat in France because she **wanted** to impress Colin, a guy she **had met** at work, and boost her social media profile. While she **was pretending** to be living in Paris, however, a terrorist attack **rocked** the city, killing dozens of people. Her apparent return to the USA, miraculously unscathed, **provoked** intense media interest, making her 'the girl of the moment'. She **started** telling all sorts of stories to cover up the original lie she **had told**, striking up an unlikely friendship with Rowan, a genuine trauma survivor dedicated to societal change. So, what **should** she **do** now? On the plus side, Danni's new-found fame **has captivated** the man of her dreams, Colin, and, as an influencer and an advocate, Danni **has attained** the kind of lifestyle and audience she **has** always **wanted**. When the truth **comes out**, however, she **learns** the hard way that the Internet **loves** to take down the stars it **creates**, turning victims into villains. As she **says** at the end of the film, "Be careful what you **wish** for..." because you **will** probably **get** it.

3) Grammar

Look at the way the writer uses a variety of tenses to tell the story.

a)

----- PAST CONTINUOUS -----

Danni Sanders **was working** as a Photo Editor at a digital media company called 'Depravity'



SIMPLE PAST

She **wanted** to become a writer
her boss **found** her articles 'tone deaf' and 'offensive'
and **refused** to publish them

b)

----- PAST CONTINUOUS -----

While she **was pretending** to be living in Paris



SIMPLE PAST

a terrorist attack **rocked** the city

c)

PAST PERFECT

a guy she **had met** at work



SIMPLE PAST

she **wanted** to impress Colin

d)

PAST PERFECT

to cover up the original lie she **had told**



SIMPLE PAST

she **started** telling all sorts of stories

e)

RESULT IN THE PRESENT

Danni's new-found fame **has captivated** the man of her dreams

Danni **has attained** the kind of lifestyle and audience

she **has** always **wanted**

f)

PRESENT

the truth **comes out**,

she **learns** the hard way

the Internet **loves** to take down the stars it **creates**

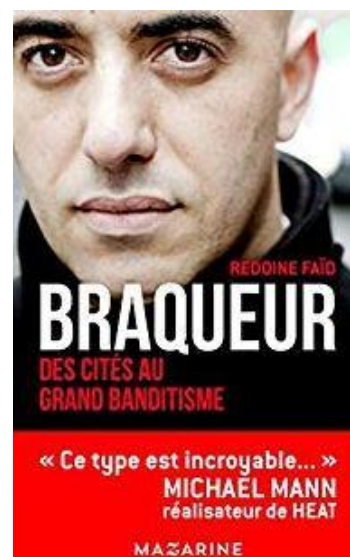
Be careful what you **wish** for...

→

FUTURE

because you **will** probably **get** it.

4) Read the text carefully and put the words in brackets into the correct form

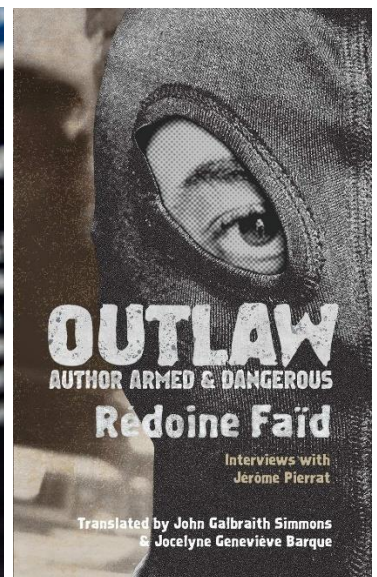


Since he (escape) from a maximum security prison in July 2018, Redoine Faïd (be) France's 'Public Enemy Number One.' He (bear) to Algerian parents on a sad, grey housing estate north of Paris in 1972. He (start) stealing at the age of eight and (deal) drugs continuously throughout his time at secondary school.

Inspired by the film 'Point Break', his career progressed to bank (rob) during which he and friends would wear masks with the faces of former French presidents and leave the scene of the crime with the words: "Thank you for (vote) for me."

The police (be) not amused and, following a short trial, the judge (send) him to jail from 1998 to 2009. After his release, Faïd wrote a book called 'Braqueur' about his life as a professional (crime) and appeared on TV chat shows to promote it. Charming, handsome and well-dressed, he (become) a minor celebrity but all the time he (plan) a series of raids on banks and security vans. The police soon (catch) Faïd and his accomplices, then (arrest) and (incarcerate) them.

In 2013, armed with a pistol and plastic explosives, he (break) out of prison but the police (recapture) him six weeks later and the judge (sentence) him to an extra ten years in jail. This time, he was considered a high-risk (prison), which (mean) that a guard (accompany) him at all times. On July 1st 2018, while his brother (visit) him in the visitors' room, a helicopter (land) in the prison courtyard, two men (arm) with machine-guns (get) out, (go) straight to the visitors' room and (take) Faïd away. It all (happen) so quickly that the guards (can) do nothing to stop it.



Later, detectives (discover) the abandoned helicopter, which his friends (hijack), and a burnt-out getaway car but Faïd and his rescuers (disappear).

Interpol already (issue) a Red Notice for Faïd following his previous escape attempt in 2013 and (redouble) its efforts to find him.

In 2018, the French police somehow (manage) to track him down even though he (live) as a Muslim woman in a burqa. Now back in prison, he (stay) there for a very long time. In the meantime, he (publish) another book about his life of crime: 'Outlaw: Author Armed & Dangerous' (New York, 2020).

Now watch this news report about Redoine Faïd's escape and recapture:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DrV4tyeQLc8>

THE PASSIVE

The passive = The verb "to be" + The past participle

	<u>ACTIVE</u>	<u>PASSIVE</u>
SIMPLE FUTURE	The government will raise taxes	
SIMPLE PRESENT	Italy imports energy from France	
PRESENT CONTINUOUS	The mechanic is repairing the car	
SIMPLE PAST	Boeing made 650 staff redundant	
PAST CONTINUOUS	TESLA was producing a record number of electric cars in 2023	
PRESENT PERFECT	Elon Musk has taken over Twitter and has renamed it 'X'	
PAST PERFECT	Apple had sold 10 million iPhone 16's within three days of the product launch	

USE: We use the passive,

- i) When the object or the action is more important than the subject of the sentence.
- ii) To avoid using the subject or when the subject is not important or unknown.
- iii) When the subject is so obvious that it does not need to be stated.
- iv) To establish a more objective and scientific style.

THE PASSIVE: Modal Verbs

MODAL VERB	+	"BE"	+	PAST PARTICIPLE
Can				used
Could		be		told
Must				sold
Had to				repaired
Will have to				replaced

- + This medicine **must be used** by 2027
- The machines **couldn't be replaced**
- ? **Can** the computer **be repaired**?

Reading and Vocabulary

1 Work in groups. Discuss these questions.

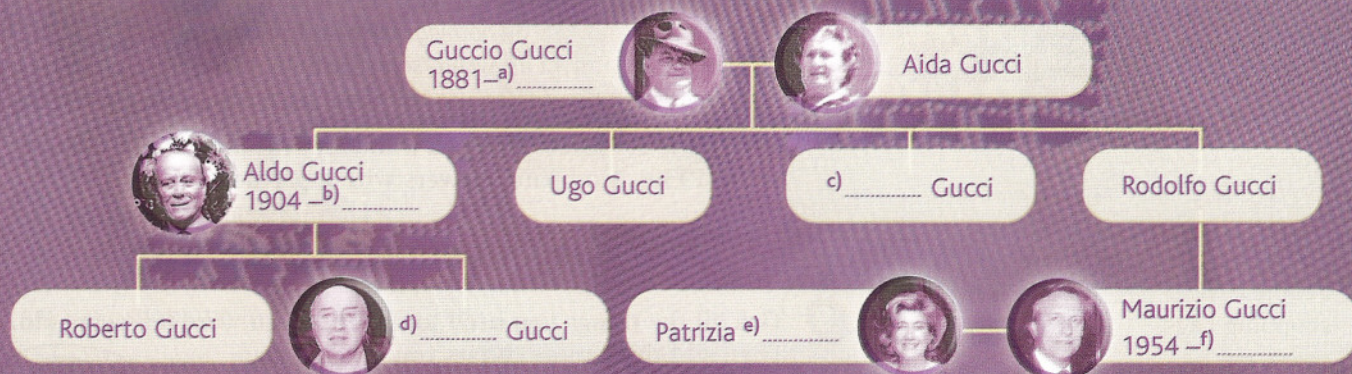
- 1 How important are clothes to people in your country, do you think?
- 2 Do you think people spend too much money on clothes?
- 3 How many 'designer labels' can you name? What do these companies sell?

2 Read the magazine article about the Gucci family. Fill in gaps a)–f) in the family tree.

3 Read the magazine article again and tick the correct sentences. Change the incorrect sentences.

- 1 Guccio Gucci designed clothes.
- 2 Rodolfo was good friends with Paolo.
- 3 Paolo wanted to start his own business.
- 4 Paolo gave information about his father to the police.
- 5 Maurizio was a successful businessman.
- 6 Patrizia shot Maurizio.

THE GUCCI STORY



Lots of people love buying ¹clothes and Gucci is one of ²the most famous fashion houses in ³the world. It was started in ⁴Italy in 1921 by a man named Guccio Gucci. He was ⁵a designer who made leather bags and suitcases and he had ⁶a small shop in Florence. ⁷The shop was the beginning of the family business and by 1953 Guccio's four sons, Aldo, Ugo, Vasco and Rodolfo, were all working for the company.

When Guccio died in 1953, his eldest son Aldo became ⁸the head of Gucci and took the Gucci label to ⁹America, while Rodolfo managed the

Italian side of the business. Aldo's son, Paolo, didn't get on with his father or his uncle, Rodolfo, so he made plans to start his own company called Paolo Gucci. When Aldo discovered this, he sacked Paolo and made it impossible for his son to start his own fashion business. Paolo was so angry that he told the Italian police his father wasn't paying enough tax. Aldo was sent to prison for a year and a day.

After Aldo died in 1990, his nephew, Maurizio, became the head of Gucci. Unfortunately Maurizio wasn't ¹⁰a very good businessman and in 1991 the company lost \$60 million.

This was ¹¹the worst year in Gucci's history. Maurizio was also having problems with his marriage. One day he went on a business trip and decided not to go back to his wife, Patrizia Reggiani. They finally got divorced in 1994 and a year later Patrizia hired ¹²a gunman to murder her ex-husband. On 27th March 1995, ¹³the gunman shot and killed Maurizio while he was walking to work. Patrizia was sent to prison for 26 years.

Gucci ¹⁴products are still sold all over the world, but there are no members of the Gucci family in the successful company we know today.

Present Simple passive; Past Simple passive

GRAMMAR 10.1

1 a Fill in the gaps with *am*, *is* or *are*.

- 1 90% of the world's rice _____ grown in Asia.
- 2 English _____ spoken in over 45 countries.
- 3 We _____ paid on the last day of the month.
- 4 Meetings _____ held every three weeks.
- 5 I _____ taught at home so I don't go to school.
- 6 A hundred watches _____ sold every hour on eBay.

b Fill in the gaps with *was* or *were*.

- 1 That book _____ written by an 18-year-old!
- 2 Your wallet and keys _____ found on the train.
- 3 That dress _____ worn by Madonna.
- 4 In 1995, eBay _____ called AuctionWeb.
- 5 I'm sorry, but they _____ sold yesterday.
- 6 The competition _____ won by a group of people from Liverpool.

2 Choose the correct words.

THE COLLECTOR'S FAVOURITE: eBay

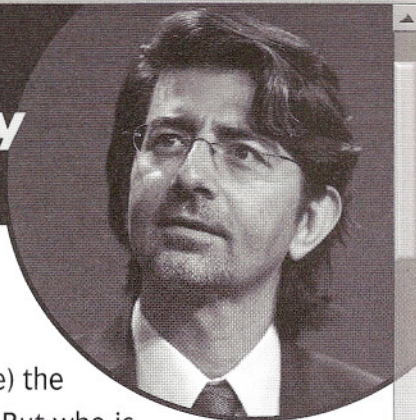
- 1 Today, eBay *uses/is used* by almost 100 million people.
- 2 A private plane *bought/was bought* in 2001, for \$4.9 million.
- 3 Every two minutes, someone *buys/is bought* a car.
- 4 In 2001 the jeans company Levi's *bought/were bought* a pair of jeans for \$46,532. They *made/were made* in 1880!
- 5 In 2002 someone *tried/was tried* to sell the Earth!
An offer of \$10,000,000 *made/was made*, but the person didn't pay!
- 6 Between 1998 and 2011, over 1000 books *wrote/were written* about eBay.



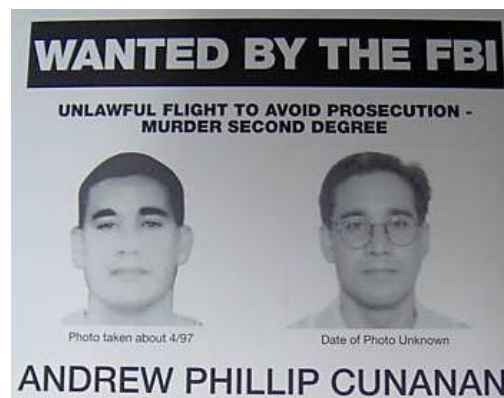
- 3 Read the article and put the verbs in brackets into the active or the passive. Use the Present Simple or Past Simple.

The man behind eBay

Pierre Omidyar



On a day off work, in 1995, Pierre Omidyar
 1 _____ (create) the auction website, eBay. But who is Pierre Omidyar and what does he do now? Pierre Omidyar's parents are from Iran. They
 2 _____ (meet) in Paris in the 1960s. They
 3 _____ (get) married and had a son, Pierre. Six years later they moved to America. From a young age, Pierre loved computers, but the subject
 4 _____ (not teach) at his school. So Pierre
 5 _____ (teach) himself on a small computer. Three years later, he got his first job in computing – for the school library. He
 6 _____ (pay) \$6 an hour! Now, over 25 years later, Pierre still gives eBay advice, but the company
 7 _____ (not run) by him anymore. A lot of Pierre's time
 8 _____ (spend) with his company, Omidyar Network. Pierre and his wife
 9 _____ (start) Omidyar Network in 2004. It
 10 _____ (give) money to companies that have a positive effect on the world. For example, at www.meetup.com, people can find others with the same interests. Then meetings
 11 _____ (organise) all over the world. Thousands of people
 12 _____ (use) the website to meet other English students!



Gianni Versace (born) in 1946 in Reggio Calabria. When he (be) twenty-five, he (decide) to go to Milan and become a fashion designer. His company, Gianni Versace SPA, (found) in 1978 and at the age of thirty-six, he (award) a prize for being the best designer of women's clothes. During the 1980's, the Versace brandfirmly..... (establish) as a symbol of Italian luxury and (diversify) into accessories, cosmetics, jewellery and fragrances. In 1984, he (create) an unusual perfume for men which (call) 'Versace l'Homme'. Four years later, Spain's first Versace shop (open) in Madrid. Expansion continued steadily until, by now, Versace products (distribute) all over the world via an impressive international retail network, including 81 Versace boutiques which (locate) in the primary commercial avenues of major cities, such as Via Montenapoleone in Milan and Bond Street in London. In 1995, Gianni Versace (organize) a party with Elton John where he personally (sign) copies of his new book 'Men without Ties', which then (sell) to the invited guests. All the money that (raise) by the party and the book (give) to AIDS charities. Sadly, Versace (kill) in Miami on July 15th 1997. The FBI (suspect) that the notorious serial killer, Andrew Cunanan, might (involve) in the Versace case. Nine days later, however, Cunanan (find) dead in Miami so the police still (not know) why Gianni Versace (murder). Meanwhile, Gianni Versace SPA (take over) by his brother, Santo, and his sister, Donatella, which means that, if the company's success continues, the products he designed (sell) long after his death.

VIDEO COMPREHENSION EXERCISE:

First, watch the trailer: 'Loving Vincent – Official Trailer'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gy0RVDM1sNA>

Now watch 'Loving Vincent', the world's first fully painted feature film'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0CQKHWvK8Ro>

- 1) Where was the film 'Loving Vincent' made?
- 2) How many English artists worked on it?
- 3) How many paintings were needed to complete the film?
- 5) How many artists worked on it?
- 6) How many artists applied to work on the film?
- 7) How many years did the film take to make?
- 8) How many of Van Gogh's paintings were used for reference?
- 9) How long did Sarah work on the project?
- 10) How does Sarah feel about Van Gogh now?

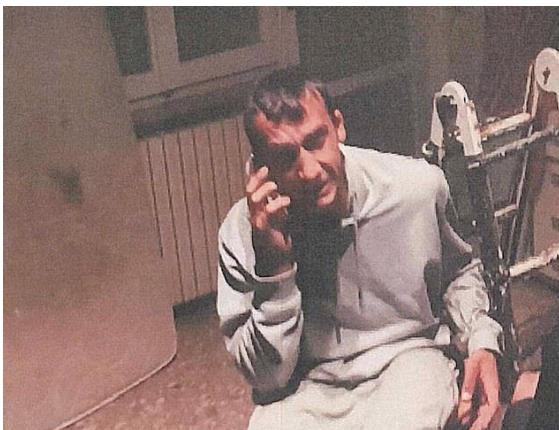


Sam Demilecamps, a twenty-five-year old Englishman with very rich parents, worked as a chef in Brighton. In June 2021, he (go)..... on holiday to Italy where he (travel)..... by bus to Naples, Sorrento, Bologna and the Adriatic coast. There, he (meet)..... Rubens Beliga Gnaga, 18, an Italian, Dona Conte, 22, from Guinea, Ahmed Rajraji, 21, from Morocco, and Aida Carpani, 20, from Montenegro. According to Demilecamps, they befriended him and then decided to kidnap him. In October 2021, he (abduct)..... from a park in Florence.

'My captors (see)..... me spending lots of money,' he said later. 'Later that night, they (kick)..... and (punch)..... me, used a Taser and pepper spray, then (throw)..... me into a car and (drug)..... me with tranquillisers.'

He (drive)..... more than 200 miles south to an apartment in Monte San Giusto, near Macerata. Here they chained him to a step-ladder, (give)..... him back his mobile phone and (tell)..... him to ask his friends and relatives to pay a ransom. He (send)..... the following text message to his father:

'I owe money to some very dangerous people. It's a matter of life and death — if I don't get 7,000 euros (£6,000), I (be)..... dead tomorrow.'



His father immediately alerted Italian law enforcement and the UK's National Crime Agency (NCA). The phone signal (trace)..... to the apartment in Monte San Giusto and, within 36 hours, the Carabinieri's Special Operations division (raid)..... the flat and (release)..... Sam Demilecamps. Four people (arrest).....

However, the Italian police (be)..... suspicious about the small amount of ransom demanded and the fact that the victim (know)..... his kidnappers. The suspects later explained that they (lend)..... him €7,000 and the (kidnap)..... was just a deception to convince his family to send them the money.

Demilecamps (agree)..... to stay in the flat while he (find)..... the cash to repay them but when he (try)..... to leave without paying his debts, they handcuffed him to the step-ladder. To corroborate their claims, a video filmed by Rajraji on his mobile phone shows Demilecamps and the rest of the group relaxing by a river together. He also appears to have cooked meals for them.



Whatever the truth, the four suspects are currently under house arrest. If they (find)..... (guilt)..... of extortion, they could (sentence)..... to up to 30 years in prison. The judge might downgrade or dismiss the charges, though, and if Sam Demilecamps (not tell).....the truth, he could (charge)..... with giving false information to the police.