

Mixed Past Tense - Answer Key

Eric and Ilsa are brother and sister. They **grew** (1) up together in the city that used to be known as West Berlin, in the former West Germany. Eric **moved** / **had moved** (2) to the United States decades ago, before the eastern and western parts of both Berlin and Germany were reunited in 1990. Ilsa and her family **visited** (3) Eric and his family last year. Ilsa's Family **flew** (4) from Berlin to Detroit for the visit. Although the children **had never met** (5) before, except through e-mail, the families **had** (6) a great time together. Every day for a week, the adults and the children **were playing** (7), talking, and eating together. One day, they **cooked** (8) some German recipes that **have been** (9) in the family for generations. For years, Ilsa **had been saving** (10) them and treasuring them in a box their mother **had given** (11) her just before she **died** (12). One of their mother's favorites **had been** (13) a dessert called Apple Kuchen. One night after everyone else **had already gone** (14) to bed, Eric and Ilsa **were sitting quietly** (15) and talking. "What **have** you **missed** (16) most about Berlin?" Ilsa wanted to know. Eric **paused** (17), then answered, "Mostly, I miss living in a city with such wonderful landmarks. The kids and I **had been looking** (18) at some books about Berlin and Germany for a while before you and your family **arrived** (19). We **were discussing** (20) the Brandenburg Gate when Franz interrupted to ask why its image **had been used** (21) as a design on some of the coins back when Germany had converted its money to euros." "What **did** (22) you tell him?" Ilsa asked. "I **said** (23) that I **was not** (24) sure," answered Eric, "but that I **thought** (25) it was because the gate **had become** (26) a symbol for Germany, like the Statue of Liberty had emerged as a symbol for the United States."