# 4 Inventions and discoveries

**Grammar start** 

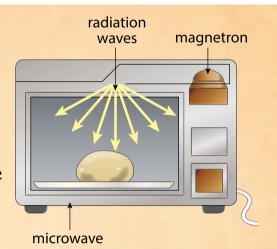
He noticed that the chocolate had melted.



#### Read and number the sentences in the order the events happened.

## The invention of the Microwave oven

Dr. Percy Spencer invented the microwave oven. The invention happened by accident. Dr. Spencer was an engineer. In 1946 he was doing radar research with magnetrons. Magnetrons produce microwave radiation. One day at work he noticed that the chocolate bar in his pocket had melted. He realized that the microwaves from a magnetron had melted the chocolate.





Dr. Spencer wanted to do more experiments. He immediately bought a bag of popcorn. He put it in front of a magnetron. When he checked it two minutes later, all the popcorn had popped! Dr. Spencer had created the first microwave popcorn snack! He was very excited because he had discovered that microwaves cook things more quickly than normal ovens. Other scientists had noticed the same phenomenon before Dr. Spencer, but they hadn't understood the potential of the discovery. So it was thanks to Dr. Spencer that microwave ovens were soon available to the public in stores.

a	Other scientists saw the effect of magnetrons.
b	The chocolate bar melted.
c	Dr. Spencer put a chocolate bar in his pocket.
d	He put popcorn in front of a magnetron.
e	He checked the popcorn.
f	The popcorn popped.
9	Dr. Spencer was excited about his discovery.
h	He saw the melted chocolate.

2 Read and complete the grammar box.

1					
1	We use the <b>past perfect</b> to say that something happened <b>before</b> another action or event in the past. To form the past perfect we use <b>had</b> ( <b>not</b> ) + the past participle:				
	2 <sup>nd</sup> event = simple past  1 <sup>st</sup> event = past perfect  He noticed that the chocolate bar in his pocket had melted.				
	Past perfect Simple past Present Future				
	Affirmative				
	He <b>realized</b> that the microwaves <b>had melted</b> the chocolate.  When he <b>checked</b> it, all the popcorn popped.  Dr. Spencer <b>had</b> the first microwave snack.				
	Negative				
	Other scientists hadn't understood the potential.				
Read and number the events '1' and '2' in the order they happened.  a Dr. Spencer realized the microwaves had melted the chocolate.  b He put popcorn in front of the magnetron because he had seen the chocol  c The popcorn had popped when he checked it.  d When he got his first job in a factory, Spencer had just finished 5th grade of the had been an electrical engineer for many years when he made his discovered the had been an electrical engineer for many years when he made his discovered to the chocolate.					
	f Before Dr. Spencer made his discovery, people hadn't used microwaves for cooking.				



### Listen and complete the sentences.



#### 2 Complete the sentences with the verbs in the past perfect.

a	Green mold <u>had developed</u> (develop) when Fleming returned from vacation
b	When he found the mold, he (be) away for more than
	two weeks.
C	He realized the mold (kill) the bacteria in the dish.
d	He made the discovery because he (not clean) the laboratory equipment.
e	He (leave) the dish on a table when he went on vacation.
f	Fleming (work) in his London laboratory for several years when he made the discovery.
9	Fleming was well known before his discovery, because he(be) a successful medical researcher.
h	Other scientists (notice) the same phenomenon before



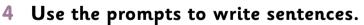
#### 3 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in the box.

freeze leave fall invent send want invent make

#### More accidental discoveries and inventions

mole accidental discoveries and inventions			
The popsicle (1905)			
When 11-year-old Frank Epperson woke up one morning he			
remembered he (a) <u>had left</u> his favorite drink in the yard the			
night before. It had a stirring stick in it. That night, temperatures			
(b) well below freezing. When Frank went outside he			
discovered that the drink (c)			
He (d) the first fruit-flavored popsicle!			
Potato chips (1853)			
Chef George Crum created potato chips because he was angry! He			
(e) French fries for a customer, but the customer			
(f) them back. He said they were too thick and soft.			
So Crum cut very thin slices of potato and cooked them until they			
were crisp. He (g) to take revenge, but the customer			
loved them! Crum (h) potato chips!			

Adverbs like *just* and *already* go after *had*: He had **just** woken up.



- **a** Before we read the article we / not hear / of Frank Epperson. Before we read the article we hadn't heard of Frank Epperson.
- **b** Frank / just / wake up / when he remembered his drink
- c George Crum was angry because a customer / complain / about his fries
- **d** People / not try / potato chips until Crum invented them
- **e** He was surprised because he / not expect / the customer to like them

He **was working** in Egypt. He **found** a tomb. No one **had entered** for years.

#### Read the article. What did Howard Carter discover?

In 1922, the archeologist Howard Carter was working in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt. He hoped to find a pharaoh's tomb. Important archeologists had said there was nothing more to find, but Carter continued to look. While they were digging, they made an incredible discovery. They found the tomb of an unknown ancient Egyptian ruler called Tutankhamen. No one had entered the tomb for over 3,000 years!

When Carter first looked through the door, he saw a room full of gold objects. When he died 17 years later, he had recovered more than 3,500 priceless objects from the tomb, and he had become as famous as Tutankhamen himself.



We use different narrative tenses in stories to describe past events.

Simple past (Main action)	They <b>found</b> the tomb of an Egyptian ruler.
Past perfect (Previous event)	No one <b>had entered</b> the tomb for over 3,000 years!
Past progressive (In progress at a specific time)	In 1922, he <b>was working</b> in Egypt.

#### 2 Circle the correct words.

- a When Howard Carter found the tomb, he worked / had worked in Egypt for 31 years.
- **b** While he **dug** / **was digging**, he saw a step that someone **had cut** / **was cutting** into the rock.
- **c** Carter sent a telegraph to announce that he **discovered** / **had discovered** something important.
- d Carter found evidence that robbers tried / had tried to enter the tomb, but they had not been / weren't being successful.



#### Write the verbs in the correct narrative tense. Listen and check.

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	In 2012, a treasure hunter (a) <u>discovered</u> (discover) 30,000 silver and gold coins, and some jewelry while he (b) (search) a field in the United Kingdom. Ronald Gray (c) (have) a cheap metal detector which he (d) (buy) three months earlier. The treasure he found was one of the largest collections of Celtic coins and jewelry anyone (e) ever	
	(find). Experts in Celtic history (f) (say) the coins were at least 2,050 years old.	
	Mr. Gray chose that particular field because he (g) (hear) stories about other people finding old coins there. While he (h) (use)	11 13
Per	his metal detector it (i) (start) making a lot of noise. He dug for 30 minutes. When he stopped, he (j) (find) 60 coins. He	
	(k) (hurry) back to the store that (l) (sell) him the	
	metal detector and he (m) (buy) a better, more powerful model.  When the day ended, he (n) (uncover) at least 120 coins.	
		l,

### 4 Expand the prompts to write an article in your notebook. Use narrative tenses.

In 2013, a treasure hunter discovered...

- In 2013 / treasure hunter / discover / gold plate / while she / dive / off the Florida coast
- Mary Fisher / look for / the wreck of a Spanish ship when she / find / the plate
- She / be / in the water for 30 minutes / when she / see / something bright in the sand
- She / **be** / excited because she / **not find** / anything like it before
- She / take / it to a Florida museum the next day
- While they / clean / it they / announce / that it was worth \$1 million dollars