Past simple, past continuous and past perfect; used to and would

1 Circle the correct alternative.
1 I ______ had felt nervous because I ______ never ______ been on a plane before.
2 We ______ had read a few travel books before we ______ decided ______ to visit Patagonia.
3 She ______ had reserved a place for her tent a few weeks before, but when she ______ arrived ______ the campsite was full.
4 The area ______ had been quite clean, as some responsible residents ______ cleaned ______ all the rubbish away.
5 Did you ever find that you ______ lost ______ luggage you ______ lost ______ in the airport?
6 I ______ had never thought that travelling could harm the environment so dramatically before I ______ read ______ that story in the paper.
7 We ______ had planned a very detailed itinerary, but then we ______ didn't ______ have ______ had ______ the time to visit all the places on our list.
8 ______ had managed ______ to communicate with the local people because I ______ learned ______ a few words before the trip.

2 Complete these sentences with the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs given.
1 I ______ was ______ looking (look) at the monitor screen when a voice ______ announced (announce) my train.
2 As I ______ was packing (pack) my stuff, I ______ realized (realize) that the suitcase was broken.
3 While my Dad ______ was getting (get) into the car, he ______ saw (see) the message on the windscreen.
4 We ______ were checking (check in) our luggage when I ______ reminded (remember) I ______ had left my passport at home.
5 It ______ was raining (rain) heavily when they ______ set off (set off) for the seaside.
6 I ______ had managed (manage) to send a text before the plane ______ took ______ off (take off).

3 Complete with the past simple, past perfect or past continuous form of the verbs given.
1 ‘What ______ was ______ (be) your hotel like?’
   ‘Oh, it ______ was ______ (be) amazing – I ______ had ______ stayed (never stay) in a five-star hotel before.’
2 ‘Did you ______ (have) a good night’s sleep?’
   ‘Yes, I ______ was ______ (still sleep) when everybody else ______ had ______ (have) breakfast.’
3 ‘Why ______ did you ______ (take) the train? It’s such a long journey from Paris to London.’
   ‘I ______ know, but I ______ died (die) to go through the Channel Tunnel.’
4 ‘_______ was ______ (be) Tom excited about his trip to Mexico?’
   ‘Of course. He ______ felt (feel) as if a lifelong dream ______ was ______ (come) true.’
5 ‘Why ______ were ______ (the kids cry)?’
   ‘Because they ______ got ______ (get lost) in the safari park.’

4 Find the three sentences in which used to can be replaced with would.
1 We ______ used to ______ go on backpacking expeditions holidays every year, but we ______ haven’t ______ been ______ on one for ages.
2 This place ______ used to ______ be totally uncontaminated.
3 Marie ______ used to ______ enjoy scuba diving when she ______ was ______ younger.
4 I ______ didn’t ______ used to ______ plan ______ our family holidays because I ______ liked ______ to ______ surprise everyone.
5 The writers ______ said ______ that she ______ used ______ to ______ take ______ inspiration from looking at nature.
6 Mum ______ used ______ to speak Spanish ______ very well when she ______ was ______ a student.

5 Choose the best answers to complete the text.

Once the fear of flying ______ B ______, to stop many people ______ from getting on a plane. But then airlines ______ companies ______ started to offer Fearless Flyer courses and travelling has never been ______ easier. We ______ can ______ read lots ______ of success stories of people ______ who ______ A ______ they ______ were ______ never ______ going ______ to take a flight again, but then, after ______ a ground session with a pilot, haven’t stopped flying since. One of these stories reads as ______ follows: ‘I ______ have ______ loved travelling, and ______ this fear ______ C ______, to ruin my holidays as well as my friendships. Normally, my ______ friends ______ A ______ and I ______ B ______ a train, or ______ more ______ than ______ one. Once it took me two days ______ to ______ join my friends, and they ______ werent ______ happy ______ at ______ all. Then I ______ A ______ about the Fearless Flyer course. I ______ must ______ confess ______ that ______ when ______ I ______ booked ______ I ______ thought ______ I ______ C ______ my money, but I ______ was ______ wrong. The pilot and the flight assistant ______ were ______ amazing – they ______ explained ______ to ______ us ______ how to ______ control ______ our fear, ______ a plane flies, and then answered ______ all ______ our questions. My flight ______ was ______ the next day. I ______ was ______ a bit ______ nervous, but the flight assistant ______ was ______ always ______ telling ______ us ______ exactly ______ what ______ C ______ at ______ each ______ moment. Then I ______ did ______ the ______ relaxation ______ techniques ______ they ______ A ______ us ______ the day ______ before, and ______ the ______ time ______ the ______ plane ______ C ______, all my fears ______ had ______ gone.’

1 A ______ would ______ B ______ used ______ C ______ use ______ to ______
2 A ______ promised ______ B ______ used ______ promise ______ C ______ had ______ promised
3 A ______ used ______ to ______ start ______ B ______ was ______ starting ______ C ______ started
4 A ______ would ______ fly ______ B ______ were ______ flying ______ C ______ flown
5 A ______ was ______ taking ______ B ______ would ______ take ______ C ______ would ______ take
6 A ______ heard ______ B ______ had ______ heard ______ C ______ was ______ hearing
7 A ______ wasted ______ B ______ was ______ wasting ______ C ______ used ______ to ______ waste
8 A ______ happened ______ B ______ had ______ happened ______ C ______ was ______ happening
9 A ______ had ______ taught ______ B ______ taught ______ C ______ were ______ teaching
10 A ______ had ______ took ______ off ______ B ______ would ______ take ______ off ______ C ______ took ______ off