

- 1 Read the text. Find and correct six mistakes with the past simple.

## A real survivor

In the winter of 2013, Raul Fernando Gonzalez rode his motorbike from Chile to Argentina across the Andes mountains. When his motorbike broke down\* in the middle of the mountains, he decided to walk to the nearest town. But he didn't find any towns in the area and when it started snowing, Mr Gonzalez got lost. What he did do? He found a small shelter\* high up in the mountains and stayed there on his own. It was very cold and he didn't met anyone for a long time. He ate rats to stay alive, but he didn't to catch many and he lost a lot of weight.

Four months later, some scientists started work in the area and found Mr Gonzalez. A helicopter took him to hospital and three days later he went home. Mr Gonzalez said, 'I didn't felt so bad, so I came home. I was very lucky.' His doctor said, 'I still can't believe it. How did he survived for so long? It's amazing.'

\* break down: stop working

\* shelter: a building that gives protection from bad weather

- 2 Work in pairs. Put the words in the correct order to make questions. Then ask and answer them.

- 1 go / Where / Mr Gonzalez / in the winter / did / of 2013?
- 2 he / did / How / travel?
- 3 stop? / he / Why / did
- 4 in / couldn't / find / mountains? / What / he / the
- 5 did / Where / stay? / he?
- 6 did / How / months / there? / many / he / stay
- 7 hospital? / long / did / stay / he / How / in
- 8 said / 'It's amazing'? / Who

- 3 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Cover the text. Look at the words from a newspaper story about Mr Gonzalez. Tell each other what you can remember about the story.

winter of 2013

Raul Fernando Gonzalez

Chile

motorbike

mountains

got lost

snowing

shelter

four months

rats

hospital

## 7D Past simple (negative and interrogative)

**Aims:** To review and practise the negative and interrogative forms of the past simple.

**Time:** 10–15 minutes

**Materials:** 1 handout for each student

### Exercise 1

- Give each student a handout and pre-teach the words *break down* (when a machine stops working) and *shelter* (a safe place to stay that gives protection from the weather).
- Ask them to quickly read the text. Ask: *Who found Mr Gonzalez?* (some scientists)
- Ask them to find and correct six mistakes with the past simple. Tell students that the mistakes include negative and interrogative past simple forms.
- Set a time limit of three minutes.
- Check answers by going round the class asking students to read the corrected sentences from the text.

### KEY

In the winter of 2013, Raul Fernando Gonzalez rode his motorbike from Chile to Argentina across the Andes mountains. When his motorbike broke down in the middle of the mountains, he decided to walk to the nearest town. But he **didn't find** any towns in the area and when it started snowing, Mr Gonzalez got lost. What **did he** do? He found a small shelter high up in the mountains and stayed there on his own. It was very cold and he **didn't meet** anyone for a long time. He ate rats to stay alive, but he **didn't catch** many and he lost a lot of weight.

Four months later, some scientists started work in the area and found Mr Gonzalez. A helicopter took him to hospital and three days later he went home. Mr Gonzalez said, 'I didn't **feel** so bad, so I came home. I was very lucky.' His doctor said, 'I still can't believe it. How did he **survive** for so long? It's amazing.'

### Exercise 2

- Students work in pairs. Set a time limit of three minutes to put the words in the correct order to make questions.
- Set another time limit of four minutes for students to ask and answer the questions.
- Check answers with the class.

### KEY

- 1 Where did Mr Gonzalez go in the winter of 2013?  
*From Chile to Argentina.*
- 2 How did he travel? *By motorbike.*
- 3 Why did he stop? *His motorbike broke down.*
- 4 What couldn't he find in the mountains? *A town.*
- 5 Where did he stay? *In a shelter in the mountains.*
- 6 How many months did he stay there? *Four.*
- 7 How long did he stay in hospital? *Three days.*
- 8 Who said 'It's amazing'? *His doctor.*

### Exercise 3

- Students continue to work in pairs. Draw their attention to the words from the newspaper story. Set a time limit of three minutes and ask them to retell the story to each other from memory. They can use the affirmative, negative and interrogative.
- Go round the class and ask students to tell the story. Other students can put up their hands if they think they hear a mistake.