

Sen no Rikyū



morning glory flowers

LISTENING



Sen no Rikyū, tea master (1522–1591)



Toyotomi Hideyoshi, warlord (1536–1598)

2.2 goals

- describe events in detail
- tell a story from your country

- 1 a Look at the pictures. While taking her friend Jessica around a museum in Japan, Shiori tells her an old story about Rikyū, Hideyoshi, and Rikyū's flowers. Can you guess which of the two men:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 asks for something? | 4 gets angry? |
| 2 reluctantly agrees to do something? | 5 learns something? |
| 3 does something surprising? | |

- b 1.11 Listen to the story. Did you guess correctly?

- 2 a Put the events of the story in order 1–8. Hideyoshi:

- a ___ arrived at the garden the next day.
- b ___ asked Rikyū to hold a tea ceremony.
- c ___ felt shocked and angry.
- d ___ noticed the flowers in the garden.
- e ___ saw a single flower in a vase.
- f ___ saw the flowers had been cut down.
- g ___ was riding past Rikyū's house.
- h ___ went into the tea house.

- b 1.11 Listen again to check.

- 3 a What do you think the meaning of the story could be? Talk together.

- b 1.12 Listen to Shiori's interpretation. What do you think of it?

- 4 Match the adverbs in 1–5 with their opposites in the box.

- 1 He would **carefully** choose tea bowls and pots and so on.
- 2 **Suddenly**, he noticed that Rikyū's garden was full of these fantastic flowers.
- 3 He asked Rikyū to hold a tea ceremony, and Rikyū agreed **reluctantly**.
- 4 Rikyū had **deliberately** cut down all the flowers!
- 5 Rikyū was just sitting there **calmly**, waiting to make tea for him.

accidentally furiously carelessly enthusiastically gradually

- 5 You can put this kind of adverb in positions a–c. Find examples in the sentences in 4.

- a before the main verb which it describes
- b at the end of a clause
- c at the start of a clause, to give it special emphasis

SPEAKING

- 6 a Work in two groups, A and B.

As – imagine you're Sen no Rikyū.

Bs – imagine you're Toyotomi Hideyoshi.

Practise telling the story from your point of view. Include some of the adverbs from 4.

- b Get into A/B pairs and listen to each other's versions of the story.

One day, I was out riding my horse when I saw ...

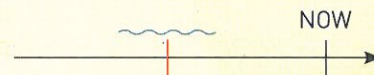
Significant stories

GRAMMAR

Past progressive and past perfect progressive

1 Look at the sentences in the box. Which **verb form** can you use to describe:

a an activity in progress at a point in the past?



b a period of activity before a point in the past?



Past progressive

Hideyoshi **was riding** past Rikyū's house when he noticed the garden was full of flowers. When Hideyoshi got inside the teahouse, Rikyū **was sitting** there calmly.

Past perfect progressive

Hideyoshi was a rich, powerful soldier who'd **been fighting** all his life.

Hideyoshi **had been expecting** to see this amazing garden again but instead he found ...

2 a Complete the folk legend about a famous salt mine in Poland. Use the past simple, past progressive or past perfect progressive.

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In the south of Poland, in a town called Wieliczka, there's a famous salt mine. According to a traditional story, mining started in Wieliczka because of a Hungarian princess called Kinga.

Kinga ¹ _____ (prepare) to marry Bolesław, the Duke of Kraków, so she asked her father, King Bela, for a present which she could give to her husband. Salt was very valuable at the time, so Bela ² _____ (give) her one of his salt mines in Hungary. As she ³ _____ (leave) for Poland, Kinga took a gold ring from her finger and threw it into the deepest part of the mine.

After Kinga ⁴ _____ (live) in Kraków for some months, she suggested to Bolesław that they should find a place to establish a salt mine. They started their search the next day. They ⁵ _____ (travel) for only a few hours when they ⁶ _____ (reach) the village of Wieliczka, and Kinga felt sure that this was the right place. The Duke's servants started digging. Almost at once they hit a hard stone and, on lifting it from the earth, saw that it was a block of pure salt and that inside the block, something ⁷ _____ (shine). Kinga looked into the block and ⁸ _____ (recognise) the ring which she had thrown into the mine in Hungary, hundreds of miles away.

Nowadays the mine at Wieliczka is like a huge underground city, with more than 2000 rooms and 300 kilometres of passages. Not much actual mining happens there, but it's a huge tourist attraction.



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Grammar reference and practice, p132

b 1.13 Listen to the story and check your answers.

SPEAKING

3 a Work alone. Choose a story from your country which you think would be important or interesting for a visitor to hear about, for example:

- a traditional fairy tale
- an old legend
- a historical anecdote
- an event from recent history

b Get ready to tell your story.

- 1 Write down the key words and names to help you remember it.
- 2 Think about the order of events and decide what verb forms to use.
- 3 Think of some adverbs you can include.

c Listen to each other's stories and ask questions to find out more about anything which interests you. If you're from the same country, do you think all the details of the stories are correct?