



Learn English: Life Events and Narrative Tenses

Reading Comprehension

I had not visited my hometown for ten years. I left home when I went to college in California to study medicine and experience adulthood. After graduating, I immediately got a job at a hospital and had no time for a vacation. My parents and some of my childhood friends still live there. Last weekend, I had a chance to go home and see that many things had changed.

As I can recall, my hometown used to be quiet, and few people lived there. I decided to walk around the town. I felt happy and sad simultaneously while seeing all the changes. I had a chance to see some people that I was very fond of and talk to them for a while. They told me about the new restaurants and stores that had opened around town. There are four supermarkets now and a wholesale store just outside town that is only open to members. When I was growing up, there was only one small supermarket for the whole town.

All of a sudden, a part of me felt unhappy as I walked around the places I remembered from my childhood and saw they had been torn down and rebuilt with modern structures. There was a small park near the elementary school where I studied. My friends and I had always played around there after school. I would have liked to have a get-together there with some old friends, but it's a parking lot now.

Even though it's changed so much, returning to my hometown was a wonderful experience for me. All in all, I was glad to see that my hometown is thriving and attracting new businesses to serve the local community.