

π“QualityTime-ESL” presents...



## Your English No. 49 – Inventing a Solar Pump 1 Action Words In CVs – A Story

Hi. I'm Marianne Raynaud. My goal is to help my listeners improve their spoken English. If you find this episode too fast, too difficult or not related to a topic that interests you, please listen to some earlier episodes or try the series called “QualityTime-ESL Podcasts”. You will find the complete list of all the episodes of our different podcast series on our website or in our apps, which are free of charge.

In “Your English” we try to vary the topic and format with each episode. This podcast offers a story to help you train with the vocabulary from previous episodes. If you haven't listened to podcast No. 46, I strongly suggest you do so before working on this story—unless of course you find it easy. Let's get started.

In this story we have included as many of the action verbs from our “Action Verb Chart” as possible - both regular and irregular action verbs. Let me remind you about the three different ways to pronounce the past tense ending **-ed** of regular verbs: /d/, /t/ or /ɪd/.

*Listen to the 1st part of the story and try to remember the facts. Questions will follow.*

***“A woman engineer is speaking about her work for a humanitarian organization”***

Two years ago I invented a special solar pump for a very dry area in the Sahara desert. The pumps that another firm had *installed* in the past *produced* a very slow flow of water, so I *conceived* a different model and then *designed* its various parts. I *assembled* the system, and we *tested* it in our lab. I *compiled* the results and *analyzed* them carefully.

*Now listen and repeat the 1st part.*

*Now I will ask questions about the engineer in the story, and you will answer them briefly, using the simple past. Start each sentence with the simple past tense. After the blank I will propose the answer.*

How long ago did she invent a special solar pump?  
She invented it two years ago.  
What was wrong with the pump another firm had installed?  
It produced a very slow flow of water.  
What did she conceive?  
She conceived a different model.

What did she design?  
She designed the various parts of the pump.  
Where did they test the system?  
They tested the system in her lab.  
What did they do when they had compiled the results?  
They analyzed them carefully.

Your English No. 49 – Inventing a Solar Pump 1 (Cont.)

*Listen to the 2nd paragraph of the story.*

With my team of assistants, we *revised* the drawings, *improved* the various mechanisms, *performed* new tests and *measured* the effectiveness of the new design. When we had *remodeled* the original pump, we *conducted* new tests and *verified* the results. We saw the water flow had *increased* considerably.

*Listen and repeat.*

*Now answer the following questions.*

What did they do with the drawings?

They revised the drawings.

What did they do with the various mechanisms?

They improved the various mechanisms.

What did they perform?

They performed new tests.

What did they measure about the new design?

They measured its effectiveness.

What had they done to the original pump?

They had remodeled it.

What did they conduct?

They conducted new tests.

What did they verify?

They verified the results.

What had happened to the water flow?

The water flow had increased considerably.

*Listen to the 3rd paragraph of the story.*

We had now *finished* our study, and it was high time we *initiated* a feasible project. But first we *evaluated* the costs and *researched* possible partners on the Internet. This *took* only a few weeks, as we had already *networked* a lot when working on other projects.

*Listen and repeat.*

*Now answer the following questions.*

What did they do when they had finished their study?

They initiated a feasible project.

What did they do first?

First they evaluated the costs.

How did they find possible partners?

They researched them on the Internet.

Did it take a long time?

No, it took only a few weeks.

Why didn't it take a long time?

They had already networked a lot when working on other projects.

*That's the end of this podcast. In our next episode we will continue with the story of the solar pump. If you visit our website [www.qualitytime-esl.com](http://www.qualitytime-esl.com), you will be able to download our "Action Verb Chart" free of charge in podcast no. 46. `*

*If you want to perfect your oral grammar, go to our series "QualityTime-ESL Podcasts". And try our new apps to be able to work from your phone. We do recommend though that you invest in a good pair of headphones. It will make you training easier, more effective and more pleasant. Bye for now, and don't forget to keep smiling.*