

## Practice

### From bikes to horses

- 1 Look at the pictures. Which is the jockey? Which is the cyclist? Could it be the same person?
- 2 Read the conversation between two friends talking about **Victoria Pendleton**. Complete it with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.



### → Switching Saddles →

**Ann** Sorry, <sup>1</sup> did you say (say) you're going to the races tomorrow?! Since when <sup>2</sup> have you been (you / be) a horse racing fan?!

**Bob** Well, it's more that I <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (always / be) a fan of Victoria Pendleton. She's riding in a big race tomorrow.

**Ann** But she's a cyclist!

**Bob** Well, yes, she was. She <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (win) Olympic gold in Beijing and London. She was amazing, but in fact she <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (not / enjoy) competitive cycling that much, so she retired, and she's a jockey now.

**Ann** Really? I <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (not / know) that. How long <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (she / be) a jockey?

**Bob** She <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (only / be) in a few races so far, but she <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (train) hard for over a year. She'd never sat on a horse before that, though.

**Ann** Wow, that's incredible!

**Bob** It is! For the last year she <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (take part) in a challenge called *Switching Saddles*, to see if she can ride in a top jump race within a year. She <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (train) by the best people right from the start, of course.

**Ann** It's still a huge challenge for a beginner, though. And those jumps always look scary to me. <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (she / have) any falls?

**Bob** Oh yeah, she <sup>13</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (fall off) a few times in training, and she <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (come off) in one of her first races. But she <sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (fall) in love with horse riding completely, and I'm hoping to see her win her first big race tomorrow – or at least stay on!

**Ann** Brilliant! Good luck to her!

\* Note: Victoria didn't fall off in her first big race, and in fact rode very well and came 5th out of 24!

### Discussing grammar

- 3 Work with a partner. Look at the pairs of sentences. Which tenses are used? Why? Discuss the differences in meaning.
  - 1 Victoria Pendleton rode bikes competitively for 11 years. She's been riding horses for two years.
  - 2 I work for a web design company. I've worked for this company since 2016.
  - 3 How long have you been living in Japan? How many different countries have you lived in?
  - 4 Have you ever met anyone famous? Did you meet anyone famous at the film premiere?
  - 5 I've already finished. I haven't finished yet.
  - 6 Who's been eating my chocolates? Who's eaten my chocolates?
  - 7 President Kennedy was assassinated in 1963. Have you heard? President Kennedy's been assassinated!
  - 8 Look at Mike's front door! He's painted it. Look at Mike's clothes! He's been painting his front door.
- 4 Underline the correct verb form.
  - 1 His plane *took off* / *has taken off* a few minutes ago.
  - 2 How many emails *have you received* / *have you been receiving* today?
  - 3 Look at the oil marks on the floor! You've *fixed* / *'ve been fixing* your bike in here, haven't you?
  - 4 The CEO *has resigned* / *has been resigned* and a new CEO *has appointed* / *has been appointed*.
  - 5 I *work* / *'ve been working* here since June. When *did you start* / *have you started*?
  - 6 A huge snowstorm *has hit* / *has been hit* New York. Over 40 centimetres of snow *has fallen* / *has been falling* in the past 12 hours. People *have advised* / *have been advised* to stay indoors.

6.2 Listen and check.