



## Money To Burn

This is Malcom Stanton, one of the richest men in the world. He is not just a millionaire, he is a multi-millionaire. But he is probably one of the unhappiest people in the world too.

They say money can't buy you happiness, and in Malcom's case, they are right. He lives in an enormous mansion in the country, alone. There are over 50 rooms, but he only uses 3 of them. He has 10 cars in his garage but only uses one of them.

He had been happy, though, before he was rich. He had friends, he lived in a moderately sized house near the city and had a girlfriend. But when he won the lottery, everybody started to disappear. Malcom doesn't really know why.

Before the lottery ruined his life, he had a better life. He had a purpose, he had dreams and ambitions, but because of the large amount of cash he now has, he no longer has any dreams because he can buy anything he wants.

The last time I saw Malcom he looked ill and very depressed, but I heard recently from a mutual friend that he was now happy. I cannot imagine him being happy because it was his money that was making him unhappy and no matter how much you try it is almost impossible to spend over £20 million.

Then a thought came across my mind. If Malcom was now happy, it is because he had done something, but what?

I think I know. Do you???

### **Comprehension Questions**

- 1) How rich is Malcom Stanton?
- 2) Who does he live with?
- 3) Was he contented in the past?
- 4) How did he win his money?
- 5) What doesn't have now that he had in the past?
- 6) Who told the writer that Malcom was happy?
- 7) What do you think Malcom had done?

**Writing Task:** In pairs draw an unhappy or happy person and write a little story about them saying what they were like before using the Past Perfect.