

Practice

1 Underline the correct word or phrase in each sentence.

- While I washed/was washing my hair, the phone rang/ringed.
- How did you felt/did you feel yesterday afternoon?
- When I got/was getting home I received/was receiving a phone call.
- Last summer I was going swimming/went swimming every weekend.
- When the dog bit/was biting Laura's leg, she screamed/was screaming.
- We sang/sung some songs and then ate/eat some sandwiches.
- When you fell/felt over the cliff, what happened/was happening next?
- While Mary washed-up/was washing-up, she broke/was breaking a cup.
- I didn't see/saw where the bus stop was, so I was missing/missed the bus.
- What did you do/were you doing when I phoned/was phoning you last night?
There was no reply.

2 Rewrite each sentence according to the instructions given.

- I enjoyed the concert. (negative) I didn't enjoy the concert.
- You ate all the bread. (question)
- Did John spend a lot? (affirmative)
- I felt well yesterday. (negative)
- Anna didn't buy a car. (affirmative)
- They won the prize. (question)
- Paul doesn't speak Greek. (affirmative)
- I paid all the bills. (negative)

3 Complete each sentence with a suitable time expression from the box. You can use an expression more than once.

ago in last week at when while

- A burglar broke into the house while we were watching television.
- I met an old friend of mine in the city centre.
- What were you doing the police officer knocked on the door?
- Jan met Sarah half-past eight outside the cinema.
- Dick was preparing lunch, he cut his finger badly.
- I first came to this town more than twenty years
- Jeff was studying to be a doctor he met Sally.
- Tony bought his first motorbike 1992.
- did you start playing basketball?
- Most of the young people left this village a long time

4 Match each sentence (a–h) with a suitable response (1–8).

- a) What was Katrina doing when you knocked on the door?³.....
- b) How did Brenda spend her holiday?
- c) What happened when the lights went out?
- d) When did you meet Cathy?
- e) What did Julie do when Tony called?
- f) Did Suzannah hear what David said?
- g) What did Lucy do when the bell rang at the end of the lesson?
- h) Why did Alicia leave so early?

- 1 She went sailing most days, and sunbathed at the beach.
- 2 She put the phone down.
- 3 She was listening to the radio in the kitchen.
- 4 She went to meet her parents at a restaurant.
- 5 She came to my brother's birthday party.
- 6 While Tina was looking for a torch, they came back on.
- 7 She wasn't listening.
- 8 She put her books away and left.

5 Put each verb in brackets into either the past simple or past continuous.

- a) When Harry (wake up) *woke up*, we (tell) *told* him the news.
- b) Everyone (wait) for the concert to begin when a message (arrive)
- c) Charlotte (want) a relaxing holiday, so she (choose) to stay on a small island.
- d) When Roberto (study) in America, his parents (phone) him every week.
- e) I (find) my pen while I (look for) my bag.
- f) Ann (watch) a film on television when Julie (arrive)
- g) When the lights (go out), I (lie) in bed reading.
- h) When you (go) to the new Chinese restaurant, what (you eat) ?