Grammar (Pulse 2, p.35)

Past Simple and Past Continuous

We usually use the past simple after 'when'.

We usually use the past continuous after 'while'.

Complete the email with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Hi Ingrid!

We're having lots of adventures on our holiday. While we 1) _____ (stay) at a campsite near a river, we 2) _____ (have) a terrible experience. There 3) _____ (be) a flood while we 4) _____ (sleep). When we 5) _____ (wake up), we 6) _____ (be) wet.

Hope you're having a good summer.

Choose the correct form of verbs.

1) Dinosaurs [lived] [were living] on Earth when they suddenly [disappeared] [were disappearing].

2) In the year 79 AD, there was a terrible volcanic eruption near an Italian city. Many people were trying to escape [while] [when] they died.

3) In September of this year, London [was] [were] burning! The fire started by accident and it quickly destroyed large area of the city.

4) On 1st November 1755, a terrible disaster destroyed the beautiful city of Lisbon in Portugal. However, the people [were rebuilding] [rebuilt] their city and made it beautiful again.

5) On 15th April 1912, a ship [crossed] [was crossing] the Atlantic Ocean to the USA when it suddenly hit an iceberg.

LIVEWORKSHEETS