



#### GRAMMAR Past Continuous vs Past Simple | when & while

Name \_\_\_\_\_

A. Read the grammar rules for the use of **Past Simple** and **Past Continuous** in the sentence.

Past continuous & past simple | when & while

We often use the past continuous and the past simple together. The **past continuous** describes an action or situation that was in progress, and the **past simple** describes a completed action.

*The burglar **was climbing** through the window when the police officer **saw** him.*

*When I **went out**, it **was raining**.*

We connect the actions with *when* and *while*.

*I **was cooking** dinner when I **heard** a loud noise.*

*When / While I **was reading** a magazine, the thief **took** my bag.*

Grammar reference page 118

B. Read and complete the dialogues with the correct **Past Simple** and **Past Continuous**.

(14 marks)



Policeman: Where were you at ten o'clock last night?

Ronnie: I <sup>1</sup> **was sitting** (sit) in my apartment. I <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) a pizza with my mate Gary.

Policeman: What time <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (Gary / arrive)?

Ronnie: At about half past eight.

Policeman: What <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (you / do) when <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (he / arrive)?

Ronnie: When <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (he / ring) the doorbell, <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (I / watch) a film.

Policeman: What film <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (you / watch)?

Ronnie: *Pirates of the Caribbean.*



Policeman: Where were you at 10pm?

Gary: I was at Ronnie's house.

Policeman: Were <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ cards (you and Ronnie / play) ?

Gary: No, we <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) a pizza.

Policeman: <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (Ronnie / watch TV) when <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (you / arrive)?

Gary: Yes, he <sup>13</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

Policeman: <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (he / watch) *Pirates of the Caribbean*?

Gary: No way! Ronnie hates pirate films. <sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (he / watch) *The Hobbit*!

**C. Complete the sentences with the correct Past Simple and Past Continuous form of the verbs in the brackets. (14 marks)**

- 1 Josh and Nick *were playing* tennis when they *saw* the plane. (play / see)
- 2 While she  her mobile phone, Lisa  the knife. (look for / find)
- 3 The muggers  the money when they  the police car. (count / hear)
- 4 When they  to the pool, it . (get / rain)
- 5 I  my friend in the street while I  to school. (see / walk)
- 6 Ryan  a book in his room when the lights  out. (read / go)
- 7 My parents  when they  at university. (meet / study)
- 8 When my cousin , I  my website. (arrive / update)

**D. Complete the sentences with the correct Past Simple and Past Continuous form of the verbs in the brackets. (14 marks)**

- 1 I *was swimming* in the sea when I *saw* a shark. (swim / see)
- 2 When the man , the pickpocket  his wallet. (shop / take)
- 3 Nathan  when he  over. (dance / fall)
- 4 They  lost while they  in the forest. (get / walk)
- 5 While Claire  in her office, she  the noise. (work / hear)
- 6 When the film , my granddad . (end / sleep)
- 7 We  to the hotel while it . (get / snow)
- 8 When Martina  her messages, she  into a tree. (read / walk)