



Interrupted actions

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REMEMBER

When we want to describe an interrupted action, we use the **PAST CONTINUOUS** for the action that was **in progress** and the **PAST SIMPLE** for the action that **interrupted** it.

Example: Kate **was sunbathing** when it **started** to rain.

Read the sentences and choose the correct option.

1. I **watched** / **was watching** a DVD when my cat jumped on me.
2. Meg **was buying** / **bought** a dress last month.
3. Greg **was sleeping** / **slept** when someone **was knocking** / **knocked** on the door.
4. Mum **cooked** / **was cooking** dinner when she **cut** / **was cutting** her finger.
5. Dad **watered** / **was watering** the plants when it **was starting** / **started** to rain.
6. They **were walking** / **walked** to school last Monday because there was no bus.
7. I **ate** / **was eating** a sandwich when I **found** / **was finding** an insect inside it.



Now, put the verbs in brackets into the past continuous or past simple.

1. Jack (play) a video game when his brother (enter) the room.

2. I (study) for my English test when my mother (come) home from work.

3. I (read) a book when the lights (go) out.

4. Emma (wash) the dishes when the telephone (ring).

5. My parents (swim) when the storm (break) out.

6. My friends (play) a football match when Tim (fall) and (cut) his knee.

