

8 Complete the Sign Up to Grammar box with the verbs in the Past Continuous

Sign Up to Grammar

While + Past Continuous

Use *while* to link two actions in progress happening at the same time in the past (parallel actions).

While you ^[4] _____
(help) with the campaign,
I ^[5] _____ (study) at home.
I ^[6] _____ (study) at home
while you ^[7] _____ (help)
with the campaign.

When & while

When I kissed him, he blushed.

When I went to Europe for the first time, I took lots of pictures.

While I was helping Dad, my brother was playing football.

While we were rehearsing for the Show, you were talking on the phone.

9 Look at the box. Complete with *when* or *while*.

- _____ Paula was riding her bike, Poppy was swimming in the lake.
- _____ Paula saw Poppy in the lake, she was really surprised.
- _____ Max and Vincent finished collecting the donations, they went home.
- _____ Guy was drinking a soft drink, Sally and Frank were reading books.

10 Read this phone conversation and fill in the blanks with the correct form (Past Continuous or Past Simple) of the verbs in brackets.

Past Continuous vs. Simple Past

We use the *Past Continuous* to express a long action. And we use the *Simple Past* to express a short action that interrupts the long one. We can join the two ideas with *when* or *while*.

While we were dancing in the park, it started to rain.
She was getting dressed when the door bell rang.

- Daisy Hello.
- Anna Daisy, it's Anna here. Tell me about last night. ^[1] Did you _____
(enjoy) the prom?
- Daisy I ^[2] _____ (not - go) to the prom.
- Anna Why not?
- Daisy I ^[3] _____ (have) an accident.
- Anna An accident? What sort of accident?
- Daisy You know, I ^[4] _____ (get) ready to go to the prom
when Josh ^[5] _____ (arrive) and waited for me
downstairs. I ^[6] _____ (see) him from the top of the
stairs and he ^[7] _____ (look) absolutely gorgeous.
He ^[8] _____ (wear) a black dinner jacket.
- Anna And then what ^[9] _____ (happen)?
- Daisy While I ^[10] _____ (walk) down the stairs,
I ^[11] _____ (hear) a noise and then I ^[12] _____ (trip)
and ^[13] _____ (fall) all the way down. It was really horrible!
- Anna Oh, no! ^[14] _____ you _____ (hurt) yourself?
- Daisy My leg ^[15] _____ (ache) a lot and then my dad ^[16] _____ (take)
me to the hospital. I ^[17] _____ (break) my leg. So no prom night for me!
- Anna Oh, I'm so sorry to hear that.

