

PAST SIMPLE vs PAST CONTINUOUS

1. Complete the text A VISIT TO POMPEII. Past Continuous.

It was 2nd August 2009 and my family and I were on our summer holiday. We (visit) Pompeii, in Italy. We (tour) the city and we (listen) to explanations about Pompeii on our headsets. A boy (tell) us the story of the eruption of the volcano Mount Vesuvius and the destruction of Pompeii in AD 79. I (not do) very much that day. I (sit) in the garden behind my father's villa. Some men (work) in the garden and I (watch) them. My parents weren't at home. They (shop) at the market. Suddenly, there was a loud noise. People (shout) and they (run) down the street because the volcano (erupt).



2. Complete the sentences with the Past Simple or Past Continuous.

1. We (browse) the web at 10 last night.
2. I (see) my friend on the plane last week.
3. You (not like) your holiday last year
4. Ben (walk) around the museum at 2 pm?
5. They (not believe) his story.
6. We (sail) on a ferry when we (see) a shark.
7. (you / have) dinner when I (phone) you?
8. My aunt (wait) for a taxi at 8 o'clock this morning.
9. I (travel) on the underground when a man (take) my wallet.
10. Becky (not buy) any souvenirs last year.
11. Where (you / go) when I (phone) you?
12. Jim (not watch) the road while he (drive).
13. Bella (leave) the museum when she (hear) an explosion.
14. We (look) at the map when Tom (arrive).
15. What (you / do) while we (be) at school?
16. When they (call), John (have) a shower.
17. We (leave) the house while you (listen) to music.
18. While Peter (sleep), a bear (take) his food.
19. Who (you / meet) while you (travel) in Thailand?
20. The boys (not see) the gorilla while they (walk) in the jungle.
21. When I (see) Hannah she (not play) volleyball. She was in the gym.
22. When you (leave) school, (it / rain)?

3. Complete the sentences with WHEN, WHILE or AS.



John was walking in Oxford Street he met his cousin.

Your phone didn't ring we were talking.

I was watching a movie my mother was talking to a friend.

What happened she was waiting for the plane?

I wasn't watching TV you arrived.

We were making the dinner Dad was working.

Jenny left we were cooking dinner.

 the train arrived, Dan wasn't waiting at the station.

4. Combine the two sentences. Start with while and when (don't forget the commas)

1. My friend came to my house. I was having a shower.

While

When

2. We were shopping. We met our friends.

While

When



5. Make questions with the past continuous and complete the short answers (there are some words missing)

1. My father / the dinner/ when / he / burn / cook / his fingers?

No,

2. prepare / leave / when / to / soldiers / bomb / explode?

Yes,

3. while / go / Mary / she / to several concerts / stay / London?

Yes,

4. we / breakfast / when / have / police / arrive?

No,

5. you / wait / Lisa / while / phone / me?

No,

6. he / see / while / he / wait / bus / an accident?

Yes,

6. Find the mistakes and correct them (write the correction in the space provided).

1. I played computer games when the electricity went off
2. She wasn't passed the last exam
3. The dog were barking all night
4. The children in the class shouted while the teacher explained the lesson
5. As I was driving, I listened to music
6. I saw him while I was runing
7. Did you wearing a new dress when I met you?
8. She was carring a tray when she dropped it

7. Cumulative Review. Complete the text

One day last summer, while I _____ (work) as a waiter, a famous actress _____ (walk) in.
I _____ (take) her to her table. A bit later, she _____ (call) to me while I _____ (take)
plates of food to another table. I couldn't stop so I carried on working. While I _____ (give)
the customers their food, I suddenly _____ (realise) that the actress _____ (stand)
right behind me. 'I'm waiting,' she said, angrily. I told her that I was busy and turned away. When I
_____ (finish) serving the other customers, I _____ (turn) around and _____ (see)
that the actress _____ (walk) out of the restaurant. My boss was very angry at first but, while
he _____ (stand) there, looking at me, all the other customers _____ (start) clapping and
cheering. My boss realised that I was right and she was wrong. I _____ (not / like) her films anyway!

