

EXTRA PRACTICE - PAST SIMPLE AND PAST CONTINUOUS

Grammar

Complete the dialogues with the past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 A ¹ _____ (you / talk) on the phone at ten last night? I ² _____ (try) to call you.
B No, I ³ _____ (not talk) on the phone. I ⁴ _____ (take) a walk and my phone was in the house.
- 2 A ⁵ _____ (you / play) on the beach when the storm started?
B No, we ⁶ _____ (eat) lunch in the restaurant. It was quite frightening. When we started eating the sun ⁷ _____ (shine) and the next minute the wind ⁸ _____ (blow) and it ⁹ _____ (rain) hard.
- 3 A ¹⁰ _____ (you / sleep) in class this morning?
B No, I ¹¹ _____ (not sleep)! I ¹² _____ (try) to memorise irregular verbs for the test.
- 4 A What ¹³ _____ (Kate / do) in the head teacher's office this afternoon? Was she in trouble?
B No, nothing like that. She ¹⁴ _____ (answer) questions about the theatre group's new play.

Complete the paragraph from a story. Use the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

When they ¹ _____ (set out) from the hotel at eight in the morning, the sun ² _____ (shine). They ³ _____ (walk) along the path when suddenly Emily ⁴ _____ (stop) and asked, 'I ⁵ _____ (you / hear) something strange?' Anna replied, 'I ⁶ _____ (not hear) anything. What do you mean?' A moment later, the sun ⁷ _____ (not shine) and the sky was black. 'It's a tornado!' Anna said. 'We need to go indoors - fast!'

It was past midnight when Helen ¹ _____ (arrive) home. She ² _____ (close) the door quietly because her parents ³ _____ (sleep) upstairs. As she ⁴ _____ (take off) her coat, she ⁵ _____ (see) a letter on the floor with her name on it. She ⁶ _____ (open) the letter and ⁷ _____ (read) it. Then she ⁸ _____ (put) it in her pocket, ⁹ _____ (pick up) her coat and ¹⁰ _____ (go) out again. It ¹¹ _____ (be) a cold night but it ¹² _____ (not rain). A few people ¹³ _____ (walk) towards the High Street, so Helen ¹⁴ _____ (cross) the road and ¹⁵ _____ (follow) them. She ¹⁶ _____ (not know) where they ¹⁷ _____ (go) - but she ¹⁸ _____ (not want) to be alone.