

A. Match the sentence halves together to complete a story about a very bad day.

1. It was raining, and a. I ran into a wall.
2. I was running in the park b. until 2 a.m.
3. I wasn't being careful, so c. it was closed.
4. I was going to the store, but d. I was making dinner.
5. I dropped my notes while e. when I fell down.
6. Someone stole my bicycle f. it left without me.
7. I was running for the bus, but g. I was giving a talk.
8. I lost my phone while h. while I was working.
9. A fire started in my kitchen when i. I didn't have an umbrella.
10. My neighbour was playing the guitar j. I was walking home.

B. Underline the verbs in the sentences above and label each verb form as past simple (PS) or past continuous (PC).*PC**PS*Example: It was raining, and I didn't have an umbrella.**C. Complete the sentences by writing the verbs in brackets in the past simple or past continuous.**

1. I (dance) when the music (stop).
2. I (drink) coffee when the train (come).
3. I first (meet) my wife when I (buy) shoes.
4. I (have) lunch when my friend (arrive).
5. I (write) an email to you when you (call).
6. I (hear) the news while I (listen) to the radio.
7. I (work) in the back garden when you (visit).
8. There (be) a big storm when I (fly) to London.
9. My friend (give) me a gift when I (feel) sad.
10. A bird (land) on her head while I (take) her picture.
11. He (work) at the post office the last time I (see) him.
12. It (start) to snow as I (open) Christmas presents.

D. Correct the underlined errors in this story.

My friend was telling me a funny story. He (1) is feeling like he needed a break, so he (2) was taking a weekend trip. He (3) is staying in a cheap hotel and his room (4) wasn't having a bathroom. He had to share one bathroom with two other rooms. During the night, he (5) was getting up to use the bathroom. He (6) wasn't locking the door of his room or take his key. When he (7) was going back to his room, he (8) was trying to open the door, but it (9) was locking. So, he (10) was going downstairs to the front desk and asked for the key, although he (11) is wearing only his underwear. The staff (12) was getting the key and (13) was opening the room, but someone (14) is sleeping inside! My friend (15) is trying to get into the wrong room! He then (16) was trying the next room. It (17) isn't being locked and his bags were there. He (18) was being so embarrassed!


E. Use the past continuous to write excuses using the information in brackets.

Example: Why didn't you answer the phone? (take a shower)

I didn't answer the phone because I was taking a shower.

1. Why didn't you send the letter? (look for a stamp)

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2. Why didn't you sleep last night? (watch TV)

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3. Why didn't you clean your room? (walk the dog)

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4. Why didn't you come to the game? (work late last night)

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5. Why didn't you make dinner? (buy bread and milk)

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6. Why didn't you do your English homework? (study for a history test)

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