

# PAST CONTINUOUS vs. PAST SIMPLE

**EXERCISE 1: Complete the sentences by writing the correct form of the verbs in brackets in the Past Continuous (was/were + verb-ing).**

1. At 4 PM yesterday, I \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) for my friend Sam at the market square café.
2. I \_\_\_\_\_ (not pay) attention when the man dropped the mysterious envelope.
3. What \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (do) when the lights suddenly went out?
4. The sun \_\_\_\_\_ (shine) brightly when the talent show began.
5. They \_\_\_\_\_ (not look) where they were going when they tripped over the cable.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ the audience \_\_\_\_\_ (clap) before the song even finished?
7. While they \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) down the street, they saw an advertisement on the wall.
8. Thankfully, it \_\_\_\_\_ (not rain) when we started our journey.
9. Why \_\_\_\_\_ he \_\_\_\_\_ (run) down the stairs so frantically?
10. She \_\_\_\_\_ (practice) the clarinet all afternoon before the concert.
11. He \_\_\_\_\_ (not feel) well, so he decided to stay home from the exam prep class.

12. While I \_\_\_\_\_ (try) to buy a concert ticket, the website crashed.
13. The judges \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) quietly to each other during the performance.
14. We \_\_\_\_\_ (not expect) a surprise party, but it was wonderful.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ they \_\_\_\_\_ (study) together when you walked into the room?
16. A cold wind \_\_\_\_\_ (blow) outside while we were safe in the auditorium.
17. She \_\_\_\_\_ (not watch) the road when the accident happened.
18. As she \_\_\_\_\_ (open) her bag, she realized her wallet was missing.
19. Many people \_\_\_\_\_ (sit) on the grass, enjoying their ice creams.
20. The music was so loud that I \_\_\_\_\_ (not listen) to what you said.

**Exercise 2:** Read the story sentences below. For each sentence, put one verb into the Past Simple and the other into the Past Continuous .

1. While I \_\_\_\_\_ (sit) in the quiet café, a strange man \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) inside.
2. The rain \_\_\_\_\_ (pour) heavily when she finally \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) at the theater.
3. As we \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) through the crowded market, a thief suddenly \_\_\_\_\_ (snatch) my phone.

4. I \_\_\_\_\_ (practice) my clarinet on stage when the microphone \_\_\_\_\_ (fall) over.
5. He \_\_\_\_\_ (open) his umbrella because the weather \_\_\_\_\_ (get) worse by the minute.
6. Just as the judges \_\_\_\_\_ (write) down my score, I \_\_\_\_\_ (trip) over a cable.
7. Everyone \_\_\_\_\_ (cheer) loudly when the band finally \_\_\_\_\_ (step) onto the stage.
8. I \_\_\_\_\_ (not look) where I was going when I \_\_\_\_\_ (bump) into my old friend Sarah.
9. While the waiter \_\_\_\_\_ (clean) the next table, he \_\_\_\_\_ (find) my lost wallet on the floor.
10. The sun \_\_\_\_\_ (shine) beautifully, so we \_\_\_\_\_ (decide) to take a walk.
11. As she \_\_\_\_\_ (search) frantically through her bag, she \_\_\_\_\_ (realize) her ticket wasn't there.
12. I \_\_\_\_\_ (read) the talent show advertisement when a brilliant idea \_\_\_\_\_ (come) to my mind.
13. They \_\_\_\_\_ (celebrate) their victory when the lights suddenly \_\_\_\_\_ (go) out.
14. While the audience \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) impatiently, the main actor \_\_\_\_\_ (forget) his lines.
15. He \_\_\_\_\_ (drop) his thick envelope while he \_\_\_\_\_ (run) to catch the bus.
16. A cold wind \_\_\_\_\_ (blow) through the square when we \_\_\_\_\_ (hear) a loud scream.
17. I \_\_\_\_\_ (try) to buy the last concert ticket when the website suddenly \_\_\_\_\_ (crash).
18. As they \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) the restaurant, it \_\_\_\_\_ (start) to snow.
19. The crowd \_\_\_\_\_ (laugh) at the joke when the speaker unexpectedly \_\_\_\_\_ (stop) talking.
20. While I \_\_\_\_\_ (drink) my coffee, a tiny bird \_\_\_\_\_ (fly) right into the shop.

# Reading part 6

For each question, write the correct answer. Write ONE word for each gap.

## Getting healthier

I have quite a healthy life these days, but I wasn't always so good! A few months **(1)** ....., I realised that I needed to change my habits. I **(2)** ..... spending too much time online and not eating well. I decided to do something **(3)** ..... it.

The first thing I changed was my diet. My parents have always provided me with healthy meals, but I often ate unhealthy snacks like crisps and sweets in **(4)** ..... meals. I stopped doing this and immediately lost some weight. Then I started to do more exercise. **(5)** ..... of sitting at my laptop all evening, I went out for a short run. I ran a little further each week and feel so much better now! I also realised that I wasn't getting **(6)** ..... sleep

because of staying up late surfing the internet. I've also decided to limit my time online. All this goes to show – anyone can change!



For each question, write the correct answer. Write ONE word for each gap.

## Making my clothes

I started making some of my own clothes last year and I'm really enjoying it. It was my mum **(1)** ..... first got me interested in learning to sew because she makes a lot of her own things. I started off by designing something quite simple – a T-shirt. It wasn't as easy **(2)** ..... I thought it would be, and it took me quite a long time. I was pleased **(3)** ..... the finished product, though, and I enjoyed sewing it. I liked it so much, **(4)** ..... fact, that I decided to study how to make clothes at college. I signed **(5)** ..... for a course earlier this year and started in July. So far on the course, I've learned all about making trousers and skirts and we're going to start looking

at shirts quite soon. It's great, and I've saved loads **(6)** ..... money, as I've bought fewer clothes.



# Writing

Your English teacher has asked you to write a story.

Your story must begin with this sentence.

*As they set off on their bikes, they knew they were going to have an exciting day.*

Write your **story**.