PAST CONTINUOUS

Part 1: Meaning & Form
Read the examples and answer the questions.

1. I was watching TV at eight o'clock last night.
2. Tony was living in Madrid in 2015.
3. I wasn't reading. / Were you reading?
4. At eight o'clock last night, was the TV action already in progress or did it start at 8:00? Already in progress / Started at 8:00
5. Complete the rule: We use the Past Continuous to talk about an action in _____ at a moment in the past.
6. Complete the form: We form the Past Continuous with _____ / _____ + the _____ form of the main verb.

Part 2: Past Continuous + Past Simple Together
Look at the timeline and sentences below and choose the correct option in each rule.

watching a movie (---------- longer continuing activity)

phone rang (| shorter finished action)

- Jack was watching a movie when his phone rang.
- I met my husband when I was travelling around India.

1. In these sentences, the Past Continuous describes the longer, continuing activity / shorter, finished action.
2. The Past Simple describes the longer, continuing activity / shorter, finished action (which often interrupts or happens during the longer activity).

Part 3: Using When and While (and Punctuation)
Read the examples and complete the rules.

- I met Matteo when I was studying at university.
- Someone stole my camera while I was eating in a restaurant.
- I called Sylvia when I read her message. (= after I read her message)
- When I met Matteo, I was studying at university.

1. We can use _____ before a Past Simple verb or a Past Continuous verb.
2. We normally only use _____ with a Past Continuous / Past Simple verb.
3. When when is used with the Past Simple, it can also mean _____.
4. Punctuation check: If the part of the sentence with when or while comes first, do we put a comma after it? YES / NO

Part 4: State Verbs Exception
Read the note below and answer the question.

Remember that we don't use verbs that describe states (e.g., believe, like, love, prefer) with a continuous tense.

Which of these is natural: "I was loving the concert" or "I loved the concert"?

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LIVEWORKSHEETS