Extra practice: past simple and past continuous

1. Go over the grammar rule for the past simple and continuous

We use **Past Progressive** to talk about long actions in the past.
We use **Past Simple** to talk about short events that happened during, or interrupted, the longer action.
I **was sitting** in the shade of the tree when one woman **stopped** and **looked** at me.

We use ***while*** before the longer action:
While the archeologists were excavating the site, they found a hidden chamber.

We use ***when*** to introduce the shorter action:
The kids were playing on the beach **when** the storm started.

We never use ***when*** and ***while*** in the same sentence.

2. *While* or *when*? Read the sentences and choose the right option

1. The teacher was explaining grammar rules _____ Martina arrived.
2. _____ we were getting ready to go, the bell rang.
3. I was talking _____ the teacher was explaning the new vocabulary :O
4. _____ my classmates broke the glass, I was washing my hands in the bathroom.
5. I was studying _____ my mum arrived home.

3. Now, read the sentences and fill in the blanks with the right form of the verbs

1. My sister _____ (play) football when it _____ (start) raining.
2. While I _____ (do) the test, a bird _____ (get) inside the classroom.
3. My friends and I _____ (study) when you _____ (phone).
4. My parents _____ (not work) when I _____ (arrive) home.
5. The delivery girl _____ (arrive) while I _____ (sleep).

4. Your turn! Write two more sentences.
Use "when" in one of them and "while" in the other. Be creative!!

LIVEWORKSHEETS