

2D

Grammar

Contrast: past simple and past continuous

I can distinguish the use of the past simple and the past continuous.

- 1 Choose the correct tense to complete the sentences.

- 1 Jake looked at the weather outside: it was grey, but it didn't rain / wasn't raining.
- 2 You didn't answer when I phoned you this morning. What did you do / were you doing?
- 3 Lucy switched off her computer, put on / was putting on her coat and left / was leaving the office.
- 4 She closed the window because some children made / were making a lot of noise outside.
- 5 When I told my friends about the robbery, they didn't believe / weren't believing me.
- 6 She didn't hear the doorbell because she had / was having a shower.

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- 2 Complete the sentences. Use the past simple form of one verb and the past continuous form of the other.

- 1 I (see) Henry as I
(cycle) to the sports centre.

- 2 While we _____ (prepare) the picnic, it
_____ (start) to rain.

- 3 All my friends _____ (leave) the party when I _____ (arrive).

- 4 As we _____ (walk) by the river, we
_____ (hear) a shout.

- 5 We (not eat) very much while we (stay) in that hotel.

- 6 I _____ (drink) my dad's coffee while he _____ (not look).

- 7 She _____ (drop) her new phone as she
_____ (put) it in her pocket.

- 8 I _____ (meet) a really interesting person while
I _____ (wait) for the bus.

- 3 Complete the text with the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

In January 2014, a doctor from New Zealand
 'had (have) a frightening experience with a shark –
 but his calm reaction * (make)
 him the star of news reports around the world.

James Grant ³ [] (fish) with friends one Saturday when a shark attacked him. He ⁴ [] (not see) anything, but he ⁵ [] (felt) a sudden pain in his leg. At first, he thought that his friends ⁶ [] (play) a prank on him. He ⁷ [] (turn) around – but nobody ⁸ [] (be) behind him. Then he ⁹ [] (realise) what ¹⁰ [] (happen).

4 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first.

- 1 I hurt my finger while I was playing the guitar.
I was playing the guitar when I hurt my finger.

- 2 I was walking home when it started to rain.

- While I _____

- 3 She broke her leg while she was learning to ski.

- She was learning

- 4 He was making lunch when he suddenly felt ill.

- As he

- 5 She was telling me about her party when she started to laugh loudly.

- She started

- | Year | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 2000 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 2001 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 2002 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 2003 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

- 6 I lost my wallet while I was shopping.

- 7 As the band were playing their first song, all the lights

- went out.

- 5 Complete the sentences with your own ideas. Use the past simple or past continuous.

- 1 As I was getting off the bus, _____

- [illegible]

- 2 We were trying to find our hotel when

- [illegible]

Luckily, James ¹ [] (carry) a knife so he ² [] (use) it to fight off the shark. Then he ³ [] (get) out of the water and ⁴ [] (look) at his leg. The bites were 5 cm long and they ⁵ [] (bleed) a lot. James ⁶ [] (clean) his leg. Then he and his friends ⁷ [] (go) to a nearby café! While they ⁸ [] (enjoy) a drink, somebody ⁹ [] (give) James a bandage because his leg ¹⁰ [] (bleed). He ¹¹ [] (go) to hospital for some treatment, but on Monday he was back at work.