

Past simple and past continuous

1 Write the past simple form of these regular and irregular verbs.

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|----------|-------|----------|-------|
| 1 cry | _____ | 8 chat | _____ |
| 2 travel | _____ | 9 happen | _____ |
| 3 send | _____ | 10 say | _____ |
| 4 enjoy | _____ | 11 know | _____ |
| 5 stop | _____ | 12 try | _____ |
| 6 break | _____ | 13 cut | _____ |
| 7 fall | _____ | 14 turn | _____ |

2 Complete the sentences with the past simple form of the verbs in Exercise 1.

- Last summer, my friend and I _____ around the south of France. We really _____ ourselves.
- _____ you _____ at the end of the film? I thought it was really sad.
- Sarah is very angry. What _____ you _____ to her? You _____ to her yesterday.
- I _____ my grandmother an email yesterday with a photo but she _____ (not) how to open the attachment!
- My mobile phone _____ on the floor but the screen _____ (not). That was lucky!
- I didn't see the accident. It all _____ very quickly.
- My PC was making a strange noise so I _____ using it and _____ it off.
- We _____ to open the box with a knife but my dad _____ himself. There was blood everywhere!

3 Write questions with the past simple.

- When / you / buy / that tablet / ?

- How much / your new computer / cost / ?

- What / you / do / after school yesterday / ?

- Why / you / not / call me last night / ?

- Where / Dad / save / the photos / on the computer / ?

- Which files / you / delete / ?

- How many copies / Gary / print / yesterday / ?

- Which company / Steve Jobs / help to start / ?

4 Write the -ing form of the verbs.

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|----------|-------|------------|-------|
| 1 attach | _____ | 8 change | _____ |
| 2 tie | _____ | 9 upload | _____ |
| 3 run | _____ | 10 think | _____ |
| 4 save | _____ | 11 win | _____ |
| 5 give | _____ | 12 spot | _____ |
| 6 get | _____ | 13 serve | _____ |
| 7 delete | _____ | 14 realise | _____ |

5 Complete the sentences with the past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I _____ (make) my dinner at 8 o'clock last night.
- 2 Joe and Sam _____ (use) the wrong program in IT yesterday.
- 3 Who was that guy you _____ (dance) with at the party?
- 4 Paula _____ (come) home from school when she saw an accident.
- 5 In 1999 my father _____ (live) in Dublin. That's where he met my mother.
- 6 He _____ (open) the box when he cut his finger.
- 7 This time last week, we _____ (visit) my grandmother.
- 8 I _____ (sit) at the back of the classroom so I couldn't see the screen.
- 9 Andrew _____ (insert) a photo into his document when the teacher stopped the class.
- 10 I _____ (start) to do my homework when my friend sent me a message.

6 Choose the correct options.

- 1 I *listened* / *was listening* to the radio when I *heard* / *was hearing* this fantastic song.
- 2 When the teacher *said* / *was saying* 'Stop!', I *still tried* / *was still trying* to finish the last question.
- 3 I feel really silly! While I *danced* / *was dancing*, I *fell* / *was falling* and *broke* / *was breaking* my elbow.
- 4 Tim *played* / *was playing* a computer game when his mum *called* / *was calling* him for lunch.
- 5 I *looked* / *was looking* for a file on my memory stick when I *noticed* / *was noticing* there was a virus.
- 6 Ron *found* / *was finding* a really interesting website about dance music while he *surf*ed / *was surf*ing the internet.
- 7 My mum *had* / *was having* breakfast near the computer when she *spilled* / *was spilling* her cup of coffee on the keyboard.
- 8 When you *saw* / *were seeing* me yesterday, I *didn't go* / *wasn't going* to school, I *went* / *was going* to the doctor's – I felt terrible.
- 9 How many pictures *did you take* / *were you taking* while you *travelled* / *were travelling* around Ireland?
- 10 Why *did you chat* / *were you chatting* to Philip while I *tried* / *was trying* to tell you something really important?

7 Complete the sentences with the past simple or the past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I _____ (switch off) the computer because it _____ (make) a strange noise.
- 2 My dad _____ (listen) to classical music when I _____ (arrive) home from school.
- 3 We _____ (play) video games when my mum _____, (say) 'Turn the volume down!'
- 4 My cousin _____ (meet) his wife, Bianca, while he _____ (live) in Italy.
- 5 My little sister _____ (draw) a picture while I _____ (study) for my French exam.
- 6 While they _____ (try) to fix the computer, all the lights _____ (go out).
- 7 When we _____ (leave) school yesterday, it _____ (pour) with rain.
- 8 When you _____ (see) Paul, _____ he _____ (wear) a black jacket?
- 9 I _____ (try) to log on when the WiFi _____ (stop) working.
- 10 While Dad _____ (print) an article, the printer _____ (run out) of paper.

8 Complete the story with the correct past tense form of the verbs in brackets.

Sometimes I hate computers! Once, when I ¹ _____ (try) to do my English homework on my laptop, the battery ² _____ (run out). I ³ _____ (lie) on my bed and I was listening to music on Spotify. It helps me to concentrate. I ⁴ _____ also _____ (chat) to my friend Daniel on Facebook. OK, so I ⁵ _____ (not concentrate) very hard on my homework and I ⁶ _____ (forget) to plug in my laptop! I didn't notice that the battery was getting low. I was just finishing the essay when the screen ⁷ _____ (go) black. I ⁸ _____ (lose) everything. I ⁹ _____ (scream) in frustration. My dad ¹⁰ _____ (come) running into my bedroom. I ¹¹ _____ almost _____ (cry) so he ¹² _____ (give) me his laptop. I ¹³ _____ (try) to remember everything in my essay – it ¹⁴ _____ (be) quite difficult especially because Daniel was sending me lots of funny videos. Anyway, while I was watching one, the WiFi stopped working. In the end it was probably better because I ¹⁵ _____ (manage) to finish the essay.