

GRAMMAR

Past simple and past continuous

Study the box.

To say what was happening when something else happened, use: past continuous + when + simple past
I **was riding** my bicycle **when I fell**.

To describe two actions that happened simultaneously in the past, use: past continuous + while + past continuous
I **was riding** my bicycle **while** she **was walking** her dog.

3 Complete the paragraph with the verbs in the box.

- were giving
- invited
- arrived
- were collecting
- had
- were looking

Last week I ¹ **invited** some friends to help in the kid's hospital. Mike and I ² **collected** toys from the community while Laura and Raymond ³ **had** for some clothes. This morning in the hospital we ⁴ **gave** the toys to the kids when the doctors ⁵ **arrived** and helped us to serve the food. We ⁶ **had** a wonderful day.

4 Complete the text with the past simple or past continuous.

In December Tilly ¹ **travelled** (fly) with her family to Thailand. On 26th December the family ² **went** (go) to the beach. While they ³ **were playing** (play) on the beach, Tilly ⁴ **looked** (look) at the water. She ⁵ **saw** (see) a lot of bubbles and ⁶ **understood** (understand) what ⁷ **happened** (happen). She ⁸ **told** (tell) her mother. Her mother and the hotel manager ⁹ **shouted** (shout) to all the people and they ¹⁰ **ran** (run) to a safe place.

5 Circle the best option.



1. Laura sat / **was sitting** on a dock when her mobile phone fell / **was falling** in the water.

2. She tried / **was trying** to catch it when she slipped / **was slipping** on the wood.
3. Two girls heard / **were hearing** someone calling for help while they cycled / **were cycling** near the park.
4. Laura called / **was calling** for help while she tried / **was trying** to stand up.
5. One girl called / **was calling** 999 while the other helped / **was helping** Laura.
6. An ambulance arrived / **was arriving** while they sat / **were sitting** Laura down on a bench.