PAST SIMPLE

Form: verb + ED or irregular verbs.
Use: a completed action in the past. (a fact, a habit or a duration.)

- I lived in England for 30 years.
- I saw Bob yesterday.

We use "Did" to make questions and "didn't" for negatives. The verb stays in the base form.

- Did you see Bob? She didn't see Bob.

PAST CONTINUOUS

Form: was/were + verb + ing
Use: interrupted action in the past, specific time, parallel actions, atmosphere

- I was having a shower when the phone rang.
- At 4 p.m. yesterday I was playing tennis.
- Were you listening while he was talking?
- When I woke up this morning, the sun was shining and the birds were singing.

Put the verbs in brackets into the Past Simple or Past Continuous

1. She ..... (make) a cake when I ..... (come) home from work.
2. When I ..... (open) the door they ..... (stop) talking.
3. We ..... (have) dinner when they ..... (arrive).
4. She ..... (live) in Hastings at that time.
5. They ..... (come) home very late last night.
6. As he ..... (be) ill I ..... (stay) to look after him.
7. ..... (you/know) the answers to their questions ?
8. He ..... (stand) up,..... (take) his case and .....(leave).
9. When you ..... (arrive) ..... (Janet /make) dinner ?
10. We ..... (arrive) just in time, she ..... (get) on the train !
11. It ..... (not take) me as long as I thought to get to Paris.
12. When I ..... (be) on holiday I ..... (have) a lie-in every day.
13. They ..... (have) breakfast when the postman ..... (arrive).
14. Everybody ..... (start) clapping when the clown .....(arrive).
15. I didn't want to disturb him because he ..... (read) the newspaper.
16. Just as I ..... (open) the door my neighbour ..... (call) me.
17. As they ..... (make) an terrible noise, we could hear what the man said.
18. That day she ..... (wear) a beautiful red dress.
19. When the waiter ..... (bring) the steak he said he .....(not eat) meat.
20. What ..... (you/do) at that time ?

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