

# PAST SIMPLE OR PAST CONTINUOUS



We use "Simple Past Tense",

- ✗ to state completed actions at a stated time in the past.  
--I went to cinema last night.
- ✗ to state sequence of actions.  
--She looked at me, opened the door and went out.
- ✗ With stative verbs. (like, love, know, understand, believe...)  
--I loved that book.

We use "Past Continuous Tense",

- ✗ to state actions started before that moment but has not finished at that moment.  
--I was reading my book.
- ✗ to state simultaneous actions.  
--While we were sleeping they were listening to music loudly.
- ✗ to describe the background situation of the stories.  
--The sun was shining, the birds were



## A. Choose the best one.

1. I didn't understand / wasn't understanding anything.
2. I had / was having a dream last night. The cats talked / were talking, the people sang / were singing and the trees walked / were walking. It was odd.
3. Who did you visit / were you visiting yesterday?
4. Susan thought / was thinking that it wasn't a mistake.
5. The teacher talked / was talking about something seriously but the students made / were making noise.
6. When I came / was coming home, my mother washed / was washing the dishes.
7. My grandparent died / was dying last year.
8. She went / was going out two hours ago.
9. Sue washed the dishes and then went / was going to bed.
10. What did you do / were you doing when I phoned / was phoning you?



## C. Make sentences

1. When - I - see - her - she - wash - the dishes.
2. They - not - want to - watch TV.
3. She - try to - open - the door - but - she could - not.
4. John - open - the door - look out - and - begin - to run.
5. We - watch TV - when - he - have - an accident.
6. He - not believe - me - although - I - tell - the truth.
7. While - I - sleep - the bell - ring.
8. I - not - want to - go to - the beach.
9. My brother - have a rest - while - my mother - cook.
10. They - play - football - when - we see them yesterday.

1	2	3	4	5	6

## D. What were the kids doing last weekend?

1. Margaret/cook
2. Suzy/play
3. Mathew/swing
4. John/skip
5. Arnold/swim
6. Tom/read
7. Marta/clean
8. Ruth/play
9. Martin/draw
10. Karl-Jim-Sue play

