

Past Simple vs Past Continuous

Past Simple - short, second action -d/-ed; 2nd col.

Past Continuous - long, first action was/were + -ing

I broke my leg while I was riding my bike.

short, second action

long, first action

1. It _____ (rain) when I _____ (wake) this morning.
2. When my dad _____ (get) home, we _____ (have) dinner.
3. The neighbours _____ (listen) loud music when I _____ (call) the police.
5. While they _____ (watch) a horror movie, they _____ (hear) a strange noise.
6. I _____ (do) my homework when the lights _____ (go) out.
7. The police _____ (catch) him while he _____ (steal) a TV from a store.
8. When I _____ (see) them, they _____ (sit) under a tree in the park.
9. He _____ (lose) his sunglasses while he _____ (ski) in the mountains.
10. We (wait) _____ for Jane, when Louis (come) _____ around the corner.
11. I (cycle) _____ through the park, when I (hear) _____ a strange noise.
12. He (pass) _____ her a message when the teacher (look / not) _____.
13. I (fall) _____ asleep while I (watch) _____ TV last night.
14. When Tom & Tim (paint) _____ the walls, the cat (knock) _____ over the vase.
15. Tom (break) _____ his leg when he (play) _____ frisbee.
16. The phone (ring) _____ when I (sit) _____ on the toilet.
17. I (jog) _____ in the park, when two squirrels (cross) _____ my way.
18. Robert (fall) _____ off the ladder when he (pick) _____ cherries.
19. When we (travel) _____ to Ireland, we (meet) _____ some very nice people.
20. While she (speak) _____ on the phone, the milk (boil) _____ over.
21. When I (leave) _____ the house this morning, the sun (shine) _____.

Well done!