

Past Simple and Past Continuous

Read the sentences on the left and match them to a usage on the right.

- 1- I was doing my homework when my friend knocked on the door.
- 2- In March 2009, Oman won the Gulf Cup.
- 3- She was wearing a lovely pink dress and silver shoes.

Use the past simple to describe:

A) a completed action in the past

Use the past continuous to describe:

B) an ongoing activity in the past

C) something that was happening in the past when another action happened.

2. Read the sentences below and choose the best form of the verb in each.

- 1- We were having / had dinner when there was a power cut.
- 2- J.K. Rowling taught English before she wrote / was writing the Harry Potter books.
- 3- When I first lived abroad, I experienced / was experiencing many problems.
- 4- What were you doing / did you do at four o'clock yesterday afternoon?
I was drinking / drank coffee with my friends.
- 5- The film was so boring that I almost fell / was falling asleep.
- 6- The door bell rang while we had / were having dinner.
- 7- The television was on, but nobody watched / was watching.
- 8- Jenny waited / was waiting for me when I arrived.
- 9- What did you do / were you doing at 10 Pm yesterday? "I was asleep."
- 10- "Did you go / Were you going out last night?" "No, I was tired."