

PAST SIMPLE OR PAST CONTINUOUS

1. Match the columns.

She was watching TV

He was doing his homework

They were walking in the forest

He was swimming in the river

The cow was eating the grass

The people were trying to stop the fire

She was riding a bike

He was fishing

when the rain started and they became completely wet.

when the fire brigade came to the place.

when his friend called him and proposed to go for a walk.

when a crocodile appeared and frightened him.

when her husband came home.

when he caught a beautiful goldfish.

when a wolf came to the meadow.

when she fell down and broke her arm.

2. Choose the correct answer

- a) Mary **prepared** / **was preparing** lunch when they **came** / **was coming**.
- b) Tom was very unlucky. It **rained** / **was raining** every day during his holidays.
- c) Who was that nice girl you **talked** / **were talking** to when I **walked** / **was walking** by the pub?
- d) Last weekend Susan **fell** / **was falling** and **broke** / **was breaking** her leg.
- e) When I **entered** / **was entering** the cafeteria Mary **had** / **was having** lunch with Peter.
- f) We **drove** / **were driving** to Berlin in Robert's new car.
- g) The sun **shone** / **was shining** brightly when I **got up** / **was getting up** this morning.
- h) Ann finally **told** / **was telling** us the whole story about Peter.

3. Fill in the blanks with simple past or past continuous

BE CAREFUL

SIMPLE PAST - SHORT ACTION - VERB WITH -ed OR 2nd column

PAST CONTINUOUS - LONG ACTION - was-were + ING

- a. As Sophie _____ (**walk**) up Regent street she _____
(**meet**) an old friend.

- b. Mary _____ (read) in bed when she _____ (hear) a strange noise downstairs.
- c. Mr Smith _____ (leave) home at 8:30 this morning, the sun _____ (shine) brightly.
- d. Sebastian _____ (arrive) at Susan's house a little before 11 am, but she _____ (not / be) there. She _____ (study) at the library.
- e. Peter _____ (watch) TV when someone _____ (knock) the door.