

## PAST SIMPLE AND PAST CONTINUOUS

### 1. Complete the following sentences with the correct form (Past Simple (-ed, irregular verb or Past Continuous was/were +ing).

*E.g I was watching a movie, when I heard a noise.*

- a. A: What (you, do) \_\_\_\_\_ when you heard that noise?  
B: I (try) \_\_\_\_\_ to change a light bulb that had burnt out.
- b. After I (find) \_\_\_\_\_ the wallet full of money, I (go, immediately) \_\_\_\_\_ to the police and (turn) \_\_\_\_\_ it in.
- c. The doctor (say) \_\_\_\_\_ that Brian (be) \_\_\_\_\_ too weak to go to work and that he (need) \_\_\_\_\_ to stay at home for a couple of days.
- d. My best friend (arrive) \_\_\_\_\_ at my house a little before 9:00 pm, but I (be, not) \_\_\_\_\_ there. I (study) \_\_\_\_\_ at the library for my final examination in Italian.
- e. John is in the living room working on his computer. At this time yesterday, he (work, also) \_\_\_\_\_ on his computer. That's all he ever does!
- f. I (call) \_\_\_\_\_ you last night after dinner, but you (be, not) \_\_\_\_\_ there. Where were you? B: I (work) \_\_\_\_\_ out at the gym.
- g. When I (walk) \_\_\_\_\_ into the busy office, the secretaries (talk) \_\_\_\_\_ on the phone with customers, a clerk (work, busily) \_\_\_\_\_ at his desk, and two managers (discuss, quietly) \_\_\_\_\_ methods to improve customer service.
- h. I (watch) \_\_\_\_\_ a thriller on T.V. when the electricity went out. Now I am never going to find out how the film ends.
- i. Samantha (be) \_\_\_\_\_ in the room when Bob (tell) \_\_\_\_\_ me what happened, but she didn't hear anything because she (be, listen) \_\_\_\_\_ to music.
- j. It's strange that you (call) \_\_\_\_\_ because I (think, just) \_\_\_\_\_ about you.

### 2. Write the Past Simple of the following verbs.

work		come	
find		speak	
fall		listen	
clean		think	
live		teach	
wash		do	
be		swim	
stop		sit	

### 3. Put the verbs into the correct form (Past Continuous -ing).

*E.g. When I was watching a bird flying in the sky, I fell over.*

- a. When I phoned my friends, they (play) \_\_\_\_\_ Monopoly.
- b. Yesterday at six I (prepare) \_\_\_\_\_ dinner.
- c. The kids (play) \_\_\_\_\_ in the garden when it suddenly began to rain.
- d. I (practice) \_\_\_\_\_ the guitar when he came home.
- e. We (not / cycle) \_\_\_\_\_ all day.
- f. While Aaron (work) \_\_\_\_\_ in his room, his friends (swim) \_\_\_\_\_ in the pool.
- g. I tried to tell them the truth but they (listen / not) \_\_\_\_\_.
- h. What (you / do) \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday?
- i. Most of the time we (sit) \_\_\_\_\_ in the park.

### 4. Write the correct form of the verbs. (Past Simple (-ed, irregular verb or Past Continuous was/were +ing).

*E.g I was watching a movie, when I heard a noise.*

- a. I (not see) \_\_\_\_\_ Susan, when I (walk) \_\_\_\_\_ in the park.
- b. While she (do) \_\_\_\_\_ her homework, her father (come) \_\_\_\_\_ home.

- c. When David (see) \_\_\_\_\_ Tom, he (not work) \_\_\_\_\_, he (sleep) \_\_\_\_\_ at his desk.
- d. The burglar (come) \_\_\_\_\_ while they (play) \_\_\_\_\_ some loud music.
- e. They (not hear) \_\_\_\_\_ the burglar because they (play) \_\_\_\_\_ the music too loudly.
- f. The dog (bark) \_\_\_\_\_, but nobody (come) \_\_\_\_\_.
- g. I (watch) \_\_\_\_\_ TV when my aunt (arrive) \_\_\_\_\_.
- h. He (study) \_\_\_\_\_ in Salamanca when the Civil War (begin) \_\_\_\_\_.
- i. The lion (not hunt) \_\_\_\_\_ when the man (shoot) \_\_\_\_\_ him.
- j. We (play) \_\_\_\_\_ cards when the fire (start) \_\_\_\_\_.
- k. He (give) \_\_\_\_\_ her the ring as the train (leave) \_\_\_\_\_.
- l. They (see) \_\_\_\_\_ the monkeys while they (visit) \_\_\_\_\_ the zoo.
- m. We (drive) \_\_\_\_\_ to the hospital when the baby (be born) \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Write the Past Continuous (-ing) form of these verbs.

go		stop	
sit		win	
pick		buy	
visit		phone	
come		run	
work		cry	

6. Choose the correct tense.

- a. As the stranger **came** | **was coming** to the station, a car **stopped** | **was stopping** behind him.
- b. My grandma never **watched** | **was never watching** TV. But she **read** | **was reading** books.
- c. I **started** | **was starting** work at 6 o'clock.
- d. He **got up** | **was getting up** and **switched off** | **was switching off** the light.
- e. When I **finished** | **was finishing** my homework, I **cooked** | **was cooking** dinner.
- f. While we **listened** | **were listening** to the news, the telephone **rang** | **was ringing**. Kate **stood up** | **was standing up** and **answered** | **was answering** it.
- g. As I **drove** | **was driving** to work last Friday, a car **crashed** | **was crashing** in front of me. I **stepped** | **was stepping** on the brakes.
- h. Yesterday Carol **wrote** | **was writing** emails from 10 to 11 and then from 5 to 7 again.
- i. We arrived in Cannes at 2.30. The sun **shone** | **was shining**, people **sunbathed** | **were sunbathing** on the beach and big yachts **sailed** | **were sailing** near the harbour. We parked our car and **went** | **were going** to the beach.

7. Make these sentences **NEGATIVE**.

- a. She lost her purse. ....
- b. He rode slowly. ....
- c. He was making much noise at midnight. ....
- d. They came early. ....
- e. We were sitting at the table. ....
- f. She ran away. ....
- g. The sun set at 7.45. ....
- h. It was getting dark at 7. ....
- i. He was talking to Tim the other day. ....
- j. They were listening to the radio from 5 to 6. ....

8. Read these sentences and **MAKE QUESTIONS**.

- a. When I met him, he was talking on the telephone.  
Who ..... to? (he | talk)
- b. The company wanted to finish this house last week.  
And when ..... it? (they | start)
- c. I tried to get in touch with you last weekend.  
Why ..... to get in touch with me? (you | want)

d. My sister was not listening when I wanted to tell her.

What ..... ? (your sister | do)

e. I had an accident on Monday.

What ..... ? (happen | you)