

PAST SIMPLE / PAST CONTINUOUS

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|----------|---------------------|------------|---------|-----------|
| I was | sitting | on the bus | when it | happened. |
| You were | watching | TV | | |
| What | was he were they | doing | when it | happened? |

We use the **past continuous** and the **past simple** together when one action interrupts another action.

We use the past continuous for the first ongoing action. We use the past simple for the action that interrupts it.

I was watching TV when the lights went out.

They were playing football when it started to rain.

1. The children _____ (play) in the garden when it _____ (start) snowing.
2. Ben _____ (ski) with his dad when they _____ (hear) a loud noise.
3. I _____ (sleep) when my alarm clock _____ (ring).
4. Tom _____ (have) a shower when somebody _____ (knock) on the door.
5. The players _____ (celebrate) the goal when the referee _____ (say) there was an offside.
6. He _____ (run) when he _____ (trip) and fell down.
7. The kids _____ (swim) in the sea when they _____ (see) a shark right behind them.
8. The class _____ (do) an exam when the earthquake _____ (start).
9. The surfer _____ (prepare) to catch a huge wave when he _____ (realise) it was a tsunami.

10. The hikers _____ (approach) the top of the mountain when the volcano _____ (erupt).

11. The explorer _____ (walk) through the jungle when a spider _____ (fall) on his hat.

12. James _____ (hide) under a tree during a thunderstorm when a lightning _____ (hit) the tree.

13. Marc _____ (drive) very fast on his motorbike when he _____ (get) into a crash.

14. The hurricane _____ (come) near the island when they _____ (cancel) all the flights.

15. We _____ (dance) in the disco when the lights _____ (go out).

16. Billy _____ (do) his homework when his pen _____ (run) out of ink.

17. Sarah _____ (listen) to the teacher when she _____ (fall off) her chair.

18. Kim _____ (text) on her phone when she _____ (walk) into a streetlight.

19. Paco _____ (tease) a bull when the bull _____ (get) angry.

20. What _____ you _____ (do) when the avalanche _____ (start)? I _____ (ski) down the mountain.

21. What _____ they _____ (do) when the water _____ (flood) the village? They _____ (pray) in church.

22. What _____ Sally _____ (read) when the fire _____ (start) in the library? She _____ (read) The Lord of the Rings.

23. What _____ you _____ (do) when the phone _____ (ring)? I was _____ (have) dinner.

24. What _____ you _____ (do) when it _____ (stop) snowing? We _____ (eat) marshmallows by the fireplace.