

Past Simple and Past Continuous

GRAMMAR WORKSHEET

1. Complete the sentences with the Past Simple form of the verbs in brackets.

- Last week, I _____ (purchase) a new computer with advanced features.
- My old smartphone _____ (crash) suddenly, so I had to buy a new one.
- We _____ (install) security software on our computer to protect it from viruses.
- My aunt _____ (fix) the broken printer by buying new ink cartridges.
- James _____ (not charge) his laptop overnight, so it died in the middle of a video call.
- Some days ago, I _____ (back up) all my important files onto an external hard drive.

2. Complete the sentences with the Past Continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- John _____ (insert) some photos into his document when the teacher stopped the class.
- While I _____ (edit) photos on my digital camera, the battery died unexpectedly.
- Yesterday, while we _____ (watch) a movie on streaming service, the app suddenly stopped working, leaving us frustrated.
- As she _____ (type) an important email, her computer crashed and she lost all the unsaved data.
- While Thomas _____ (download) several files, his computer started acting up, displaying error messages.

3. Choose the correct option.

- Emma *listened/was listening* to music when she *heard/was hearing* a strange noise.
- Arthur *was playing/played* computer games when his father *called/was calling* him for dinner.
- My sister *had/was having* breakfast near the computer when she *spilled/was spilling* her cup of coffee on the keyboard.
- How many pictures *did they take/were they taking* while they *travelled/were travelling* around Ireland?
- What *were you doing/did you do* when you *were seeing/saw* him?

4. Complete the story with the correct past tense form of the verbs in brackets. You can use either Past Simple or Past Continuous.

Last month, my friends and I _____ (gather) in my house for gaming marathon. Everything _____ (seem) fine until suddenly the power _____ (go out). While we _____ (play) our favourite game, the lights _____ (flicker) on and off, and the darkness _____ (consume) the room. We _____ (sit) in silence and we _____ (try) to think about what had happened. After some investigation, we found out that a fuse _____ (blow) due to the overload caused by all the gaming consoles and computers we _____ (use). As we _____ (try) to fix the issue, my friend accidentally _____ (trip) over a cable, and the TV _____ (fall) to the ground and the screen _____ (break). It _____ (take) all night to fix the damage. However, despite the setbacks, we _____ (decide) to plan another gaming night soon.

