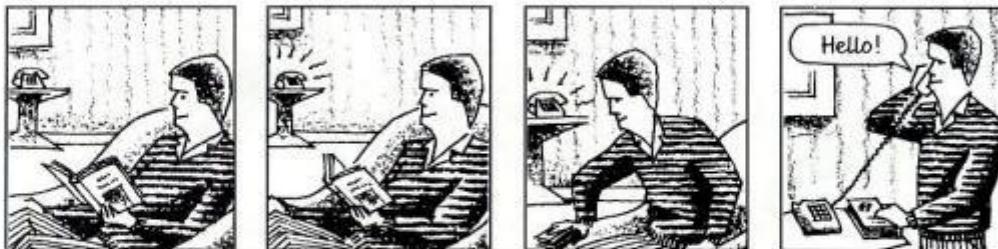


I was doing (past continuous) and
I did (past simple)

A



Jack was reading a book. The phone rang. He stopped reading. He answered the phone.

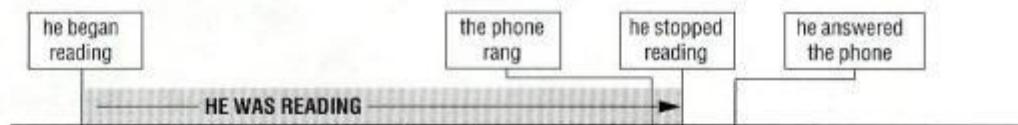
What **happened**? The phone **rang**. (past simple)

What **was Jack doing** when the phone rang? He was reading a book. (past continuous)

What **did he do** when the phone rang? He stopped reading and **answered** the phone. (past simple)

Jack began reading *before* the phone rang.

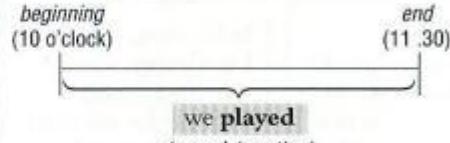
So: **When** the phone rang, he **was reading**.



B

past simple

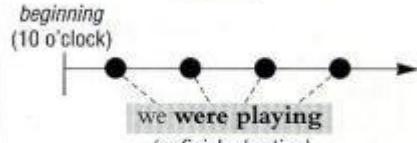
- A: What **did you do** yesterday morning?
B: We **played** tennis. (from 10 to 11.30)



- Jack **read** a book yesterday. (= from beginning to end)
- Did you **watch** the film on television last night?
- It **didn't rain** while we were on holiday.

past continuous

- A: What **were you doing** at 10.30?
B: We **were playing** tennis.



- Jack **was reading** a book when the phone rang.
- Were you **watching** television when I phoned you?
- It **wasn't raining** when I got up.

- I **started** work at 9 o'clock and **finished** at 4.30. At 2.30 I **was working**.
- It **was raining** when we **went** out. (= it started raining *before* we went out)
- I **saw** Lucy and Steve this morning. They **were waiting** at the bus stop.
- Jenny **fell asleep** while she **was reading**.

EXERCISES

14.1 Look at the pictures and put the verbs in the correct form, past continuous or past simple.

1



Carol broke (break) her arm last week. It (happen) when she (paint) her room. She (fall) off the ladder.

2



The train (arrive) at the station and Paula (get) off. Two friends of hers, John and Jenny, (wait) to meet her.

3



Yesterday Sue (walk) along the road when she (meet) Jim. He (go) to the station to catch a train and he (carry) a bag. They (stop) to talk for a few minutes.

14.2 Put the verb into the past continuous or past simple.

- 1 A: What were you doing (you/do) when the phone rang (ring)?
B: I was watching (watch) television.
- 2 A: Was Jane busy when you went to see her?
B: Yes, she (study).
- 3 A: What time (the post / arrive) this morning?
B: It (come) while I (have) breakfast.
- 4 A: Was Margaret at work today?
B: No, she (not/go) to work. She was ill.
- 5 A: How fast (you/drive) when the police (stop) you?
B: I don't know exactly but I (not/drive) very fast.
- 6 A: (your team / win) the football match yesterday?
B: No, the weather was very bad, so we (not/play).
- 7 A: How (you/break) the window?
B: We (play) football. I (kick) the ball and it (hit) the window.
- 8 A: (you/see) Jenny last night?
B: Yes, she (wear) a very nice jacket.
- 9 A: What (you/do) at 2 o'clock this morning?
B: I was asleep.
- 10 A: I (lose) my key last night.
B: How (you/get) into your room?
A: I (climb) in through a window.