

BIKE THEFT ON THE RISE

It's a bike rider's worst nightmare – you lock your bike and leave it, but when you come back, it's gone!

Urban biking in the U.S. is increasing everywhere, but bike crime is, too. In New York City last year, thieves stole about 60,000 bikes! Most people don't report bike thefts because the police rarely do anything. Serious crimes like murder and vandalism take up most of their time. Stealing bikes is easy, as filmmakers Casey and Van Neistat discovered. They made a movie that showed it was too easy to steal a bike in New York City. In the movie, Casey stole his own bike in various situations, and the police only stopped him once!

We interviewed two victims of bike theft to find out what happened to them. Were they being careful when their bikes were stolen?



Make it hard for criminals!

- Don't ride alone at night.
- Lock your bike.
- Keep your bike indoors.
- Report thefts to the police.



Check it out!

Find these words and check their meaning.

nightmare
lock
threatening
sidewalk
suspicious

First, we spoke to Steve; was he doing anything wrong?

Steve was riding his bike alone at night: "I was riding on a backstreet when I saw two boys. They were laughing and talking while they were walking towards me. They weren't doing anything threatening. Then, while I was riding past, one of the boys pushed me and I fell off my bike. While I was getting up, the other boy hit me. Then they took my bike and ran away. I reported it to the police, but they never found it."

Eva didn't lock her bike: "I was riding my bike with a friend. We stopped at a store to get some groceries. We left our bikes on the sidewalk while we were shopping. I didn't lock my bike because I was only in the store for a couple of minutes. I was looking out the door while I was waiting in line at the register. A guy was standing near my bike, but he wasn't doing anything suspicious. When I got outside, the guy was riding away fast on my bike! I ran after him, but he disappeared. I reported it to the police, but nothing happened."



1 2:24

Read and listen What did Steve do wrong?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Past progressive

Affirmative and negative

I **was riding** my bike with a friend.
They **were walking** towards me.

Affirmative	Negative
I was walking.	I wasn't walking.
You were talking.	You weren't talking.
He / She / It was running.	He / She / It wasn't running.
We / You / They were riding.	We / You / They weren't riding.

Think!

Read the sentences. Then choose the correct alternative.

I **was having** breakfast at eight o'clock this morning.
They **weren't listening** to the teacher.

- We use the past progressive to describe an action in progress in the past / that is still happening now.

Rules p.W38

1 Complete the sentences with the past progressive form of the verbs in parentheses.

The boys **were playing** (play) soccer on Saturday morning.

- She _____ (listen) to music in her bedroom all evening.
- I _____ (not wear) my best clothes yesterday.
- They _____ (not study) all afternoon.
- The officer _____ (run) after the robbers.
- He _____ (watch) a movie at 8 p.m.

yes / no questions and short answers

Were they walking towards you?
Yes, they were. / No, they weren't.

yes / no questions	Short answers	
	Affirmative	Negative
Was I talking?	Yes, I was.	No, I wasn't.
Were you walking?	Yes, you were.	No, you weren't.
Was he / she / it sleeping?	Yes, he / she / it was.	No, he / she / it wasn't.
Were we / you / they playing?	Yes, we / you / they were.	No, we / you / they weren't.

2 Write questions in the past progressive. Then write short answers.

Amy / use the tablet / this morning? (✓)

"Was Amy using the tablet this morning?"

"Yes, she was."

it / rain / yesterday? (X)

"Was it raining yesterday?" "No, it wasn't."

- the burglar / run away / from the police? (✓)
- you / talk to Mr. Peters / after the lesson? (X)
- James / wait at the bus stop / this morning? (✓)
- they / copy / during the test / last week? (X)
- you / wear / sneakers / yesterday? (X)

while

Think!

Read the sentences. Then complete the rule.

While he **was studying**, he **was listening** to music.

The boys **were talking** while they **were walking** towards me.

- We use _____ to link two simultaneous actions in the past.

Rules p.W39

3 Write sentences. Use the past progressive.

Juan / play / video games / while / I / wash / the dishes.

Juan **was playing video games** while I **was washing the dishes**.

- You / bike / while / I / run.
- While / we / play / basketball, / Maria / study.
- The students / talk / while / they / take / a test.
- Jason / come / out of the movie theater / while / we / go / in.
- While / they / have / lunch, / they / watch / TV.

Finished?

Say what you and your friends were and weren't doing at these times.

10 a.m. last Saturday 5 p.m. yesterday
8 p.m. last night 7:30 a.m. today

I **was playing tennis** at 10 a.m. last Saturday.
I **wasn't sleeping**.

Puzzle p.107

Crime

1 2.26 Match the crimes with the pictures. Then listen and repeat.

burglary kidnapping mugging murder pickpocketing
robbery shoplifting vandalism



robbery



1



2



3



4



5



6



7

2 2.27 Complete the chart with the words in the box. Then listen and check.

burglar kidnapper mugger murderer
pickpocket robber shoplifter vandal

Look!

Steal (v) (simple past stole, past participle stolen) – to take something from someone without their permission.
Theft (n) – the act of stealing.
Thief (n) – a general term for a person who steals. Robbers, burglars, pickpockets, and muggers are all thieves.

Crime	Criminal	Action
robbery	robber	robs a bank or a store
shoplifting	1	shoplifts / steals things in a store
burglary	2	enters a house and burglarizes it
pickpocketing	3	picks people's pockets or steals from bags
murder	4	murders someone
mugging	5	mugs people in the street
vandalism	6	vandalizes property
kidnapping	7	kidnaps someone

3 **Pairwork** Ask and answer questions about what criminals do.

A What does a burglar do?

B He enters a house and burglarizes it. What does a pickpocket do?

A He takes ...

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Past progressive and simple past + when / while

Think!

Read the sentences. Then complete the sentences with **past progressive or simple past**.

While I **was riding** past them, one of the boys **pushed** me.

I **was sitting** on the bus **when** my phone **rang**.

- We use the **past progressive** for a short action which interrupts a longer action.
- We use the **simple past** for the longer action.

Rules p.W39

1 Match the sentence halves.

- I was sleeping **d**
 - While Katia was cleaning her room, **a**
 - Tom was skateboarding in the park **e**
 - When I saw the burglar, **c**
 - While we were walking home, **b**
 - Mom burned her hand **f**
- her pet mouse escaped.
 - while she was cooking.
 - we saw an accident.
 - when my alarm went off.
 - he was climbing out of a window
 - when he fell and broke his arm.

2 Read the text and choose the correct answers.



It was 8 p.m. and I was in my bedroom. I **was listening** / **listened** to music and I **was sending** / **sent** text messages to my friends. It was very hot, so I decided to open the window. While I **was opening** / **opened** the window, I

was looking / **looked** at the sky and I **was seeing** / **saw** two big red circular lights. They **were moving** / **moved** slowly towards the house. I was very excited! I **was running** / **ran** downstairs into the yard. While I **was running** / **ran** through the kitchen, I **was calling** / **called** my dad. He **was watching** / **watched** TV in the living room. When Dad **was coming** / **came** into the yard, the lights **were moving** / **moved** over the house. It was incredible. Dad said, "Quick! Film them with your phone." I **ran** / **was running** to my room and got my phone, but when I **was getting** / **got** back, the lights **were disappearing** / **disappeared** in the distance. I tried to film them, but it was too dark!

3 Complete the sentences with the past progressive or simple past form of the verbs in parentheses.

I **was reading** in bed when I **heard** someone outside. (read / hear)

- Two boys _____ Oscar's backpack while he _____ home from school. (steal / walk)
- While we _____ in Brazil, we _____ a lot of friendly people. (travel / meet)
- When I _____ up, it _____ . (wake / snow)
- While Alicia _____ in her room, a bird _____ in through the open window. (study / fly)
- Lucas _____ his leg while he _____ in Canada. (break / ski)
- Aunt Katie _____ at the train station when I _____ . (wait / arrive)
- We _____ to the bus stop when it _____ to rain. (walk / start)
- Our cat _____ on the sofa when we _____ home. (sleep / get)

4 Complete the sentences with your ideas. Use the past progressive or the simple past.

I was getting on the bus when **my cell phone rang**.

- _____ when the teacher called his name.
- While my friend was walking home, _____
- _____ when it started to rain.
- While my parents were watching TV, _____
- I fell asleep while I _____

Finished?

Write a crime story. Use the words in the box. Then exchange stories with a partner.

call look see vandalize wait watch

Last night, I was waiting for the bus when I saw ...

Puzzle p.107

Workbook p.41

Extra practice



LIVEWORKSHEETS

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