

Review 2 – PAST CONTINUOUS and PAST SIMPLE

Practice 1: Last week John went to Scotland on a business trip. Read his diary for last week. Then complete the report he sent to his boss using the past simple.

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6 MARCH
Thursday

am

- fly to Edinburgh
- have lunch with Scottish sales team

pm

- visit two factories
- discuss last series of adverts with marketing manager (not keen on them)

7 MARCH
Friday

am

- drive to Glasgow
- meet architects – look at new office plans

pm

- go to see new office building
- invite architects to dinner (not free)
- catch overnight train to London

From: John Hutchings

To: Simon Sato

Subject: Visit to Scotland 6 & 7 March

I (1) flew to Edinburgh on Thursday morning and (2) lunch with the Scottish sales team. Then I (3) our two factories there and (4) our last series of adverts with the marketing manager. He (5) keen on them, unfortunately.

On Friday morning I (6) to Glasgow and (7) the architects. We (8) at the new office plans and in the afternoon we (9) to see the new office building. I (10) the architects to dinner, but they (11) free. I (12) the overnight train back to London.

Practice 2: Use the words given to make sentences. Do not change the order of the words. Use the past simple or past continuous.

GRAMMAR & WRITING A2
Better Me Education

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

1



Katie / phone / the takeaway when the pizza / arrive

Katie phoned the takeaway when the pizza arrived.

2



when Danny / arrive / we / pay / the bill

When Danny arrived, we were paying the bill.

3



while he / walk / in the mountains, Harry / see / a bear

4



the students / play / a game when the professor / arrive

5



Oliver / phone / the fire brigade when the cooker / catch fire

6



when the starter / fire her pistol / the race / begin

7



I / walk / home when it / start / to snow

8



Andy / have / lunch in a cafe when Jade / phone



Practice 3: Choose the correct alternative.

Lucky accidents

Is it true that Sir Isaac Newton understood gravity because an apple (1) fell / was falling on his head when he (2) lay / was lying under a tree in his garden? Probably not. However, many great and small discoveries are the result of lucky accidents ...

One day in 1879 chemist Constantin Fahlberg (3) didn't wash / wasn't washing his hands before dinner. While he (4) ate / was eating he (5) noticed / was noticing that the bread (6) tasted / was tasting sweet. The sweetness was saccharin.

Alexander Fleming (7) became / was becoming interested in the control of bacteria while he (8) worked / was working as a doctor during the First World War. In 1928 he (9) tidied / was tidying his laboratory when he (10) saw / was seeing that one of the dirty dishes (11) didn't have / wasn't having any bacteria on it, but that something else (12) grew / was growing there. It was penicillin.

In 1930 dietician Ruth Wakefield (13) prepared / was preparing some cookies for guests when she (14) realised / was realising that she had no chocolate powder. She (15) decided / was deciding to use small pieces of ordinary chocolate instead. The chocolate pieces (16) didn't melt / wasn't melting, and the first chocolate chip cookies were a great success.

Dr Percy Spencer was a physicist in the 1940s who probably enjoyed chocolate chip cookies. He (17) walked / was walking past some equipment in the laboratory when he (18) felt / was feeling something strange in his pocket. It was his chocolate bar and it (19) melted / was melting. This accident (20) led / was leading to the invention of a new piece of cooking equipment – the microwave oven.

Practice 4: Put the verbs into the correct form: past simple or past continuous.

From: Ada
To: Becky
Subject: Naomi

Hi Becky,

Guess what, my sister Naomi is married! She (1) got (get) home from her round the world trip last week with a husband!! She (2) (meet) him when she (3) (travel) round New Zealand. One afternoon, while her friends (4) (shop), she (5) (go) to look round an art gallery. She (6) (look) at a small sculpture when a young man (7) (come) into the room and he (8) (start) to put it into his rucksack. She (9) (call) the security guard because she (10) (think) the man (11) (try) to steal it. She (12) (be) really embarrassed to discover that he (13) (not steal) it – it (14) (belong) to him! Anyway, he (15) (not mind) and he (16) (ask) her to go for a coffee. They (17) (get married) a month later in Bali. We (18) (not know) anything about it! Can you believe it? He's really nice and they are very happy together!

Love, Ada



Practice 5: Here is part of the website of a rock star called Aidan Flanagan. Put the verbs into the correct form: past simple or past continuous.

AIDAN FLANAGAN

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Aidan Flanagan was born in 1994 in Bray near Dublin, Ireland. In 2011 he became very seriously ill. While he (1) was recovering (recover) at home, his uncle (2) (give) him an old drumkit. He enjoyed playing and practised in a friend's garage every evening. One day in 2013, John Leaf, the manager of several successful musicians, (3) (pass) the garage when he (4) (hear) Aidan practising. He (5) (bang) on the garage door and (6) (invite) Aidan to appear in one of the concerts he (7) (organise) that year. Aidan, however, (8) (not accept) Leaf's invitation, because at that time he (9) (prepare) for some important school exams.

Aidan (10) (pass) his exams and (11) (go) to university to study engineering. There he (12) (meet) Kim O'Malley, who (13) (study) chemistry. Kim played the saxophone. Being students, they (14) (not have) much money and they usually (15) (work) as waiters at weekends.

One evening in April 2016, while Aidan and Kim (16) (serve) customers, the manager (17) (announce) that there would be no live music in the restaurant that night as the regular band could not come. Aidan and Kim (18) (persuade) the manager to let them play. All the customers and staff (19) (be) amazed to hear how good their music (20) (be). In the next six months Aidan and Kim (21) (earn) so much money they (22) (decide) to leave university and go on tour. Their success has continued ever since.

---THIS IS THE END OF THE ASSIGNMENT---

