

Languages & Cultural Surprises

Vocabulary

For each country, choose the correct name of the language. Only one is correct.

1. **Brazil**

- a) Brasilish
- b) Portuguese
- c) Brazilic

2. **Japan**

- a) Japanish
- b) Japanese
- c) Nipponese

3. **Germany**

- a) German
- b) Germish
- c) Germain

4. **Egypt**

- a) Egyptish
- b) Arabian
- c) Arabic

5. **Argentina**

- a) Argentinian
- b) Spanish
- c) Argentese

6. **China**

- a) Chinish
- b) Chinese
- c) Chinanes

7. **France**

- a) French
- b) Frenchish
- c) Frenchan

8. **Italy**

- a) Italian
- b) Italish
- c) Italese

9. **Russia**

- a) Russian
- b) Russish
- c) Russan

10. **Greece**

- a) Greek
- b) Grecian
- c) Greekish

Match the English phrase to the correct translation in another language.

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Good morning! | a. ¿Cuánto cuesta? (Spanish) |
| 2. Thank you. | b. Je ne comprends pas. (French) |
| 3. Where is the bathroom? | c. Guten Morgen! (German) |
| 4. How much is this? | d. Merci. (French) |
| 5. I don't understand. | e. Où sont les toilettes? (French) |

"The Croissant Confusion"

Last summer, Emma went to Paris for the first time. She was very excited to practise her French. On her first morning, she went to a small café near her hotel. She wanted three croissants for breakfast.

The waiter was smiling when she walked in. Emma was feeling confident, so she tried to order in French: "Je voudrais trois croissants, s'il vous plaît." But the waiter looked surprised. Emma didn't realise she was holding up both hands with all her fingers (ten) and then showing three more fingers afterwards!

The waiter thought she wanted **thirteen** croissants. While he was putting the croissants into a big bag, Emma was wondering why it was taking so long. When she saw the bag, she started laughing and explained the mistake in English. The waiter laughed too, and they shared one croissant together as a joke.

Mark the sentences **True (T)** or **False (F)**.

1. Emma went to Paris last summer. TRUE/FALSE
2. She went to a café on her second morning. TRUE/FALSE
3. Emma ordered in French. TRUE/FALSE
4. She showed ten fingers and then three more. TRUE/FALSE
5. The waiter thought she wanted 15 croissants. TRUE/FALSE
6. Emma explained the mistake in French. TRUE/FALSE
7. They both laughed about the situation. TRUE/FALSE

Answer in complete sentences.

1. Where did Emma go last summer?

2. What did she want for breakfast?

3. How did she try to order her food?

4. How many croissants did the waiter think she wanted?

5. How did Emma and the waiter react to the mistake?

Grammar – Past Continuous vs. Past Simple

Explanation

- **Past Simple** → completed actions in the past.
I visited Paris last year.
- **Past Continuous** → actions in progress at a specific moment in the past.
I was ordering coffee when my phone rang.
- **Combination:** Use Past Continuous for the background action and Past Simple for the shorter action that happened in the middle.
I was taking a photo when it started to rain.

Timeline example:

| --- was walking --- | short action: saw

I was walking to school when I saw my friend.

Grammar Practice

Exercise A – Fill in the blanks

Use the Past Simple or Past Continuous.

1. I (walk) _____ to the bus stop when it (start) _____ to rain.
2. She (take) _____ a photo when someone (call) _____ her.
3. We (eat) _____ dinner when the lights (go) _____ out.
4. They (shop) _____ for clothes when they (see) _____ a celebrity.
5. I (drop) _____ my phone while I (run) _____ to catch the bus.
6. He (read) _____ a book when the cat (jump) _____ on the table.
7. We (not / watch) _____ TV when the doorbell (ring) _____.
8. While I (write) _____ an email, my computer (crash) _____.

9. She (drive) _____ home when it (start)
_____ snowing.

10. I (find) _____ a wallet while I (walk)
_____ in the park.

Exercise B – Multiple Choice

Choose the correct answer.

1. While we _____ (**wait / were waiting**) for the bus, it _____ (**arrived / was arriving**).
2. I _____ (**watched / was watching**) a movie when the phone _____ (**rang / was ringing**).
3. They _____ (**were having / had**) lunch when we _____ (saw / were seeing) them.
4. She _____ (read / was reading) when the lights _____ (**went / were going**) out.
5. We _____ (**were walking / walked**) in the park when it _____ (**started / was starting**) to rain.
6. While I _____ (**was cooking / cooked**), my friend _____ (**came / was coming**) over.
7. He _____ (**took / was taking**) photos when it _____ (**started / was starting**) snowing.

8. I _____ (**saw / was seeing**) him while he _____ (**waited / was waiting**) for a taxi.
9. While the children _____ (**played / were playing**) outside, it suddenly _____ (**began / was beginning**) to rain.
10. I _____ (**met / was meeting**) an old friend while I _____ (**was shopping / shopped**).