

GRAMMAR

Past Continuous and Past Simple

Past Continuous

It was raining.

We weren't thinking about the weather.

Were you running? Yes, I was./No, I wasn't.

Past Continuous and Past Simple

Abe downloaded his photo while his dad was making a warm drink.

He was throwing the frisbee when lightning hit a tree.

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

- 1 He said the weather was too hot while he was visiting (visit) Mexico.
- 2 They (not listen) when the weather forecast was on TV.
- 3 What (you/do) when you saw the hurricane?
- 4 They (swim) in the sea when the heavy rain started.
- 5 (it/snow) when you left home?
- 6 Someone took my umbrella while I (not look).

2 Choose the correct option.

- 1 I was running for the bus when I dropped / was dropping my phone.
- 2 Jack fell asleep while he watched / was watching the film.
- 3 We were walking home when the breeze started / was starting to get stronger.
- 4 There was a flood when my cousins stayed / were staying in Japan.
- 5 The bear appeared / was appearing while we were walking down the mountain.
- 6 The post came / was coming while we were having breakfast.

3 Complete the sentences with the Past Simple or Past Continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 We saw (see) something strange in the sky while we were looking (look) at the stars.
- 2 The sun (shine) when we (arrive) at the beach.
- 3 While I (wait) for the bus, I (message) a few friends.
- 4 Jenna (cry) when I finally (find) her.
- 5 We first (hear) about the storm while we (have) dinner.
- 6 When I (arrive) at Paula's house, she (sit) outside in her garden.

4 Complete the dialogue with the Past Simple or Past Continuous form of these verbs.

do eat fall have (x2) hear not rain
not stop run shine start tell

A: ¹ Did you have a good time on your school trip last week?

B: Yes, we ² a great time in the morning while the sun ³ . But it ⁴ to rain while we ⁵ our lunch and it ⁶ for the rest of the day!

A: Oh, dear! What ⁷ you after lunch?

B: At first, it ⁸ very much, so our teacher ⁹ us to keep looking for rocks near the river.

A: What happened next?

B: We ¹⁰ thunder. I ¹¹ to the bus when I ¹² and dropped my camera. Now it doesn't work anymore!