

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!