

PAST CONTINUOUS for interrupted actions

We use the Past Continuous with the Simple Past when a long action is interrupted by a short action. We use the word **when** to join the two actions.

Long action (past continuous): I was listening to the radio (action in progress)

When + short action (past simple): the doorbell rang (this action interrupts the first).

I was listening to the radio when the doorbell rang.

Complete the sentences with PAST SIMPLE or PAST CONTINUOUS of the verbs in brackets.

1. We _____ (play) football when the rain _____ (start).
2. He _____ (play) baseball in the garden when he _____ (broke) the window.
3. I _____ (sleep) when Mom _____ (come) in.
4. Rebecca _____ (run) when she _____ (fall) on the ground.
5. She _____ (watch) a movie when her sister _____ the tv.
6. They _____ (walk) on the beach when they _____ (see) the whale.
7. We _____ (study) in the library when we _____ (hear) a scary sound.
8. He _____ (wash) the dishes when the phone _____ (ring).
9. Mary and I _____ (dance) when she _____ (fall).
10. She _____ (play) hide and seek when Sara _____ (fall) down the tree.