

Grammar

Past simple and past continuous

1 Choose the correct option a or b.

- 1 I was bending down to pick something up ...
 - a when the woman knocked me over.
 - b when the woman was knocking me over.
- 2 We were waiting for the taxi ...
 - a when the car accident happened.
 - b when the car accident was happening.
- 3 When it was raining ...
 - a I accidentally dropped my bus ticket in a pool of water.
 - b I was accidentally dropping my bus ticket in a pool of water.
- 4 Jai fell off the ladder ...
 - a while he washed the windows.
 - b while he was washing the windows.
- 5 I didn't realise ...
 - a that he listened to me on speaker phone.
 - b that he was listening to me on speaker phone.
- 6 We were at the airport ...
 - a when Jack realised that he'd forgotten his passport.
 - b when Jack was realising that he'd forgotten his passport.
- 7 How did Bea manage to hurt her toe ...
 - a while she washed her hair?
 - b while she was washing her hair?
- 8 I hurt my leg ...
 - a when I fell over.
 - b when I was falling over.

2 Find and correct five mistakes in sentences 1–8.

was looking

- 1 Jane ~~looked~~ in her bag when she walked into the streetlight.
- 2 Kim opened the door of the washing machine and flooded the kitchen.
- 3 Ellie accidentally was picking up another woman's bag because she thought it was her bag.
- 4 I was talking on the phone when I was smelling the pizza burning in the oven.
- 5 As I was lighting the barbecue, my hair was catching fire.
- 6 It took several months to repair all the damage from the flood.
- 7 I tried an expensive perfume in a shop when my phone rang and the bottle slipped out of my hand.
- 8 My neighbour was fixing his roof when he slipped and fell off his ladder.

3 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

I had a really embarrassing experience yesterday.

I ¹..... (be) in the shopping centre and I ²..... (hurry) up the escalator, when I passed a woman who ³..... (look) in her bag for something. Somehow my jumper ⁴..... (get) caught on the zip on the woman's bag. I nearly ⁵..... (slip) and ⁶..... (fell) back down the escalator. I couldn't free my jumper from the zip on her bag. The woman and her friend ⁷..... (try) to help me, but they couldn't. So we ⁸..... (have to) travel up the escalator together!

