PAST CONTINUOUS

B1 | Grammar + Gateway Unit 2 vocabulary

1 MATCH THE SENTENCES WITH THE RULES

Connect each sentence (1-4) to the correct use (A-D).

1. At seven o'clock yesterday, we were waiting at the coach station.
2. While we were getting on the ferry, my luggage fell into the water.
3. As I was checking the fare, my friends were buying tickets.
4. The sun was setting, and tourists were walking towards the campsite.

RULES

A. to describe the atmosphere, setting, etc. in the introduction to a story before we describe the main events.

B. for two or more simultaneous past actions.

C. for an action which was in progress at a stated time in the past. We do not mention when the action started or finished.

D. for an action which was in progress when another action interrupted it. We use the past continuous for the action in progress (longer action) and the past simple for the action which interrupted it (shorter action).

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2 OPEN THE BRACKETS

Use the Past Continuous or Past Simple. Write the correct verb forms.

1. At seven o'clock yesterday, we _____ (wait) at the bus stop.
2. While the tourists _____ (get on) the ferry, it _____ (start) to rain.
3. As I _____ (look) at the information screen, the departure time _____ (change).
4. The coach _____ (break down) while we _____ (travel) to the campsite.
5. What _____ you _____ (do) when the plane _____ (take off)?
6. While my parents _____ (check in), I _____ (watch) the luggage.
7. At that moment, the travel agent _____ (explain) our holiday budget.
8. As we _____ (set off), the driver _____ (notice) a problem.
9. The children _____ (not / sleep) in the tent at midnight.
10. While I _____ (buy) a single ticket, my friend _____ (ask) about the return fare.
11. The wind _____ (blow), and a hot-air balloon _____ (float) above us.
12. When we _____ (arrive), the welcoming host _____ (prepare) breakfast.

LIVEWORKSHEETS