

1 Read the comments on the news article about Mrs Ryu's accident in the home. Choose the correct form of the verb to complete the comments.

Comments

A 

RachelDM08

Poor Mrs Ryu! She [1]lay / was lying on the floor feeling very frightened when the firefighters [2]arrived / were arriving. I can't believe the bot vacuum cleaner [3]ate / was eating her hair. I think she felt embarrassed, too.

B 

Ciaran2006

I like the idea of a robot doing all the housework. It could sweep the floor and take the rubbish out for me – amazing! I thought about Mrs Ryu. While the robot [4]pulled / was pulling her hair, she [5]tried / was trying to stop it. The robot switched off quite quickly. It wasn't so bad!

C 

SusanYork99

Relax! Robots aren't bad. My dad designs robots – they can really help people. Yesterday, I [6]read / was reading about robots helping old people in their homes. My grandma lives alone in a flat. The other day, she [7]dusted / was dusting the shelves when she [8]fell / was falling on a rug. She broke her toe. She needed a robot!

2 Complete the sentences. Use the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

1 While they _____ (visit) Iceland, they _____ (go) inside a turf house.
2 Priti _____ (burn) her hand while she _____ (make) lunch.
3 You _____ (decorate) a cake when you _____ (finish) doing all the housework.
4 While we _____ (put up) the tent, we _____ (find) a big hole in it.
5 Julia _____ (not water) the plants while she _____ (pack) for her holiday.
6 I'm fed up with Donald. He _____ (talk) while we _____ (watch) the film.
7 When the electricity _____ (go) off, I _____ (tidy) my room.
8 The heating _____ (not work) when you _____ (come) home.

3 Complete the sentences with the correct past simple or past continuous forms of the verbs below. There is one extra verb which you do not need.

drop fold look for make move not listen not take out put up sweep

1 Stephen dried the dishes while you _____ the floor.
2 _____ you _____ the wardrobe when you hit your head?
3 Lisa _____ the rubbish because she was playing video games instead.
4 We _____ when Mum told us how to use the washing machine.
5 While I was looking up at the chimney, I _____ my phone.
6 They _____ their tent in the garden when Mum and Dad arrived.
7 It was so dark outside that I _____ the entrance to the outhouse for ages.
8 Ali _____ the clothes when Soroush offered to help him do the housework.

4 Order the words to make sentences.

1 and / on Sunday / ironed my clothes / took out the rubbish / I
_____
2 was tidying / Clarissa / when / her bedroom / fell over / she
_____
3 was sleeping / the robot / was cleaning the floor / the woman / while
_____
4 her hair / she / woke up / the vacuum cleaner / when / was pulling
_____
5 when / was ironing my clothes / I / my hand / I / burned
_____
6 they arrived / the cooker / we / when / were cleaning
_____

5 Complete the mini-conversations with your own ideas. Use the past simple and the past continuous.

1 A What were you doing when you burned your hand?
B I _____.
2 A Did Fatima cut her finger when she _____?
B No, she didn't. She _____.
3 A What housework was the boy doing when _____?
B He _____.
4 A When did the accident at home happen?
B It happened while I _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS