

## PAST SIMPLE AND PAST CONTINUOUS || WHEN & WHILE

► We use the **past simple** to talk about **finished actions** and situations in the past:

- Saroo **was** a five-year-old boy.
- His family **lived** in a small village.
- He **didn't go** to school.
- Did they **have** a TV?

► We use the **past continuous** to talk about **activities in progress** in the past:

- He **was cleaning** a train.
- Saroo and his brother **weren't working** in a shop.
- **Was it snowing?**

► We can connect past actions with **when** and **while**. We usually use **when** before the past simple, and **when or while** before the past continuous.

- They **were putting** up the tent **when** it **started** to rain.
- I **got** a text message **while** I **was watching** a film.

### 5 Match the sentence halves using when or while. (Read the box on the left!)

We were playing football **when** a dog ran onto the pitch

1. We were playing football
2. Max dropped his mobile
3. Lisa was having lunch
4. The screen went blank
5. He was cooking rice
6. Jake fell asleep

- a. he was running for the bus.
- b. she was writing her blog
- c. a dog ran onto the pitch
- d. she bit her tongue
- e. he was doing his homework
- f. he burned his hand.

### 1 Choose a verb for each sentence. Then complete the sentences using the past simple affirmative (✓) or negative (✗).

1. Saul **went** to the cinema last week. ✓
2. I **\_\_\_\_\_** for my Maths exam last night. ✗
3. My dad **\_\_\_\_\_** me a fantastic birthday present. ✓
4. We **\_\_\_\_\_** homemade pizza last night. ✗
5. My sister and I **\_\_\_\_\_** to some cool music last night. ✓
6. We **\_\_\_\_\_** all our money on ice cream and popcorn. ✓

### 3 Complete the conversations with the verbs below. Use the **past simple** or the **past continuous**.

be do drive happen have see visit walk

**Jay:** What <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ you <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday evening? I called but you weren't at home.

**Zara:** We <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ my grandparents. Why?

**Jay:** I <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a spare ticket for the Adele concert.

**Zara:** Oh no! I love her!



**Theo:** Something really strange <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ on Friday. I <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ home when I <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ my teacher.

**Ben:** Why was that strange?

**Theo:** He <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a big new sports car! It <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a Ferrari!

### 6 Complete Nathan's dream with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets.

Hi, guys! I had an amazing dream last night.



1. I **\_\_\_\_\_** (cycle) along the road. The sun **\_\_\_\_\_** (shine) and the birds **\_\_\_\_\_** (sing) in the trees. But then I **\_\_\_\_\_** (notice) there weren't any other people in the road. That was weird because it was a Monday morning. I **\_\_\_\_\_** (go) past an old house when I **\_\_\_\_\_** (hear) a loud noise. I got off my bike and looked around. The front door was open so I **\_\_\_\_\_** (decide) to look inside. I **\_\_\_\_\_** (go) into the hall and **\_\_\_\_\_** (stop). While I **\_\_\_\_\_** (stand) there a voice from the living room said, 'Come in!'