

When/while

- We use when, while to connect two clauses together.
- We use them when a short action interrupts a long action (first action / background action).

Read the following and remember the rules:

Jenny was busy in her kitchen. She was making dinner for her family. The phone rang while she was cooking. She was washing her hands to answer the phone when someone knocked on the door. While she was walking to the door, she dropped the phone. She picked it up. She was going back to the kitchen when she saw a little rat on the TV. What a bad day for her!

When + , +

While + , +

Subordinate
clause

Main clause

Complete the following sentences with a subordinate clause:

1. While , a dog
chased him.



2. When , I was playing
soccer.



3. I saw a fire while



Complete the following sentences with a main clause:

1. While I was playing a basketball match,
2. When my dad arrived home,
3. Smith was diving in the Red Sea when
4. I found a gold ring while