

The Pursuit of Happyness: Simple Past x Past Continuous

Today let's talk about compound sentences.

One sentence is SIMPLE PAST, and the other one is PAST CONTINUOUS.

It happens when one action was happening, but it was interrupted by another one.

For example,

I was talking on the phone when my mother told me off.
When my mother told me off, I was talking on the phone.



Let's see. Today we are going to watch a scene of a very famous film, and work with it. Do you know this movie? its name is The Pursuit of Happiness. Do you like it? Let's talk about this.

1) Chris _____ (cook) burgers for breakfast when his landlord _____ (knock) on his door.

2) The police _____ (arrest) Chris when he _____ (paint) the house.

3) Chris _____ (pay) some parking tickets when the officer _____ (tell) him he was supposed to spend the night in jail.

4) When Chris _____ (call) his ex-wife, she _____ (work) hard.

5) When he _____ (enter) the elevator, he _____ (try) to button up his jacket.

6) He _____ (wait) in the waiting room when the secretary _____ (call) out his name.

7) When he _____ (walk) through the office, businesspeople _____ (talk) on the phone, _____ (speak) very loudly, and _____ (work) a lot.

8) The Board _____ (wait) for Chris when the secretary _____ (announce) him.

