

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

WORKSHEET 1



Ryan We **were walking** home when we **found** a bag of rubbish.

Dad I **saw** something good! I **was cycling** home when I **saw** a new house. I think it's an eco home.

The past continuous and the past simple

 We often use the past continuous with the past simple. The past continuous talks about a longer action which started first.

*We **were walking** home when we **saw** a bag of rubbish.*

The past simple talks about a short action which happened during the longer action.

*We **were walking** home when we **saw** a bag of rubbish.*

We can make two actions into one sentence by connecting them with **when**.

*I **was cycling** home **when** I **saw** a new house.*

We can make either the past simple or the past continuous part of the sentence into a question. We use the matching short answer.

Were you walking** home when you **saw** a bag of rubbish? **Yes, we were.

When you were walking** home, **did you see** a bag of rubbish? **Yes, we did.



I. Complete the sentences. Use the past continuous of the verbs in the brackets

- 1 Mr Smith was driving (drive) home when the storm started.
- 2 I _____ (watch) a DVD on my computer when it stopped working.
- 3 We _____ (travel) on the bus when we saw the new shops.
- 4 What _____ (you do) when the phone rang?
- 5 She _____ (shop) when she lost her purse.
- 6 _____ (you read) a book when your headache started?
- 7 I _____ (walk) outside when it started to rain.
- 8 _____ (you play) football when you hurt your leg?

II. Read the sentences. Tick the action that started first

- 1 I was watching television when the lights went off.
I was watching television. ☒ The lights went off. ☐
- 2 It was raining when I went out.
It was raining. ☐ I went out. ☐
- 3 We were walking through the town when I saw the new shop.
I saw the new shop. ☐ We were walking through town. ☐
- 4 Mum was shopping when she met an old friend.
Mum was shopping. ☐ She met her old friend. ☐

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

- 1 I was painting (paint) a picture when my mobile rang (ring).
- 2 George _____ (use) a hammer when he _____ (hit) his hand.
- 3 Penny _____ (help) us when Mum _____ (come) in.
- 4 Mr and Mrs Feathers _____ (get) ready to go out when their son _____ (call).
- 5 We _____ (walk) to school when we _____ (see) her.
- 6 I _____ (watch) TV when Mum and Dad _____ (come) home.
- 7 They _____ (eat) breakfast when I _____ (arrive).
- 8 Dad _____ (sleep) when the play _____ (finish).

SENTENCE BUILDING

I. Look at the picture. Complete the sentences with the words from the box

do his homework make a poster clean
talk loudly read a book

What were the children doing when the programme started?

- 1 Ryan was doing his homework.
- 2 Julia _____
- 3 Tommy _____
- 4 Maddy and Beth _____
- 5 Martin _____



II. Write sentences, using past simple and past continuous

	First action	Second action
1	We / sit down	when / the play / start.
2	I / choose / a bracelet for Mum	when / Mum / come into / the shop.
3	Louise / talk / to Amy	when / the bus / arrive.
4	When / Harriet / look for / some plasters	she / find / her watch.
5	The team / train	when / Ted / have / an accident.
6	When / we / walk / around the ruins	some stones / fall.
7	The actor / perform / on stage	when / the director / start / to laugh.
8	When / I / carry / some bottles	the carrier bag / break.
9	When / they / shop	it / start / to rain.

1. We were sitting down when the play started.

2. _____
3. _____

4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____

III. Join the sentences using *when*

0. Mrs.Hardy/ talk/ on the phone/ Peter/ get/ home.
Mrs.Hardy was talking on the phone when Peter got home.
1. I/ break up/ the plate/ I/ do/ the washing up.

2. She/ get up/ they/ have breakfast/ in the kitchen.

3. It/ start/ to snow/ they/ climb the mountain.

4. I/ get on/ the plane/ someone/ shout/ my name.

5. She/ smile/ for the camera/ the bee/ sting her/ on her nose.

6. Peter/ blow out/ the candles/ he/ slip and fall/ face down/ on her birthday cake.
