Past simple & past continuous

a) Study this chart and complete the examples below with the correct form of the verbs in brackets:

While **As** **When**	**past continuous** (action in progress) S + was / were + V-ing	**past continuous** (simultaneous actions) S + was / were + V-ing
		past simple (short action that interrupts an action in progress) S + V-ed

1 While the teacher _____ some examples on the blackboard, my classmates and I _____ out of the window at the snow which _____ . (write / look / fall)

2 When I _____ my homework my friend Kevin _____ me to ask me if I _____ anything interesting, because he and some friends _____ football later and they needed a goalkeeper. (do / phone / do / play)

When	**past simple** (finished action) S + V-ed	**past simple** (consecutive actions) S + V-ed
		past continuous (action in progress that started before the second action) S + was / were + V-ing

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 When I _____ my homework I _____ Kevin and he _____ me where they _____ for me. (finish / phone / tell / wait)

4 When the cowboy _____ the saloon, four men _____ poker and another man _____ whisky at the bar. The bartender _____ at him, but he _____ . (enter / play / drink/ look / not smile)

b) Use the **past simple** or the **past continuous** to fill in the gaps with the correct tense of the verbs in brackets. Sometimes both may be possible.

5. A bird _____ over us when we _____ with a rope, but we _____ it because all of us _____ down. (fly / play / not see / look)





6. While Helen _____ on her computer, her little daughter _____ a videgame. The girl _____ on her knees on the floor, but Helen _____ on a chair. (work / play / sit / sit)

7. At twelve o'clock the woman _____ on the beach. She _____ on a blue towel. They _____ some music on the radio. She _____ lemon juice. (sunbathe / lie / play / drink)



LIVEWORKSHEETS



8. Susan and Bob _____ a tree yesterday. First, Bob _____ a hole while Susan _____ the tree, then she _____ it in the hole and he _____ it. (plant / dig / hold / put / water)

9. Maggie _____ her dog when suddenly it _____ another dog and _____ towards it, very happy. Maggie _____ when she _____ the dog's owner. (walk / see / run / smile / recognise)





10. My father _____ this photo yesterday. As you can see, my brother and I _____ dinner. My mother _____ to us what we _____ to do. They _____ that our dinner _____ delicious – especially the salad. (take / make / explain / have / say / be)

Images taken from http://clipart-library.com/

LIVEWORKSHEETS