

# Past simple & past continuous

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

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

- 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)

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

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)



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)

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



### 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)

