

PAST SIMPLE VS. PAST CONTINUOUS

Choose the correct verb form in each of the following sentences.

1. Mary **prepared** / **was preparing** lunch when they **came** / **was coming**.
2. Who was that nice girl you **talked** / **were talking** to when I **walked** / **was walking** by the pub?
3. Last weekend Susan **fell** / **was falling** and **broke** / **was breaking** her leg.
4. We **drove** / **were driving** to Berlin last Sunday.
5. The sun **shone** / **was shining** brightly when I **got up** / **was getting up** this morning.
6. Ann finally **told** / **was telling** us the story about Peter last month.
7. Yesterday Jane **fell** / **was falling** and **hurt** / **was hurting** herself while she **rode** / **was riding** her bicycle.
8. Helen **wore** / **was wearing** her dress to the party last night.
9. He **waited** / **was waiting** for half an hour when they **arrived** / **were arriving**.
10. Where was he going when you **saw** / **was seeing** him?
11. She **talked** / **was talking** to John on the phone when I **walked** / **was walking** in.
12. Did she **know** / **knew** they **came** / **were coming** to the party?
13. How many people were sitting in the waiting room when you **arrived** / **were arriving**?
14. I met them in the street while I **shopped** / **was shopping**.
15. The postman arrived while I **left** / **was leaving** the house.
16. We **walked** / **were walking** down by the river when it **started** / **was starting** to rain.
17. The storm started while we **drove** / **were driving** back from London.
18. They met when they **worked** / **were working** in Paris.
19. What time **did she arrive** / **was she arriving** last night?
20. He **broke** / **was breaking** his foot while he was playing football on Saturday.
21. I **cut** / **was cutting** my finger while I **chopped** / **was chopping** vegetables.
22. The plane **left** / **was leaving** over an hour ago.
23. I **drove** / **was driving** fast when I was flashed by the speed camera.
24. What **were you doing** / **did you do** at 8 p.m. yesterday?
25. My parents **went** / **were going** to several concerts while they **stayed** / **were staying** in Paris.

PAST SIMPLE

Form: Subject + Verb 2.

- He *played* tennis yesterday.
- The children *went* to the park this morning.
- Did you see Bob yesterday?
- They *didn't come* to the party on Sunday.

PAST CONTINUOUS

Form: Subject + was/were + Verb+ing.

- We *were playing* tennis at 4 p.m. yesterday.
- They *were eating* when we arrived.

While + PAST CONTINUOUS

When + PAST SIMPLE