

1. What were they doing when the lights went out? Write sentences with the past continuous forms of the verbs.

1. (Mi-na / read / a book)

- Mi-na was reading a book.

2. (Martin / wash / the dishes)

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3. (Brad and Kate / watch / TV)

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4. (I / talk / to Tom / on the phone)

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5. (Laura / play / video games)

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6. (Mr. and Mrs. Jones / eat / dinner)

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2. Complete the sentences with when and the words in parentheses. Use the SIMPLE PAST FORMS of the verbs.

1. (their friends / arrive) Jane and Paul were making dinner on Friday **when their friends arrived**.

2. (his brother / call) Martin was driving to the store _____.

3. (the electricity / go off) What were you doing yesterday _____?

4. (Jill / send me / a text message) _____, I was talking to Tom on my cell phone.

5. (the ambulance / come) What were they doing _____?

6. (the storm / begin) _____, I was walking home from work.

3. Complete the conversation with the correct forms of the simple past or the past continuous of the verbs in parentheses.

Rick: Hi, Lisa. What were you doing (do) ¹
when the electricity went (go) off? ²

Lisa: Unfortunately, I was working (work) ³
on the computer! I couldn't finish my work. What ⁴
were you doing (do)? ⁴

Rick: Oh, I was sleeping (sleep) when ⁵
everything went (go) dark. ⁶
I didn't even know what happened.

Lisa: Really? It was only 7:30 p.m.

Rick: Well, I took (take) a nap in the living room. I think I slept ⁷
for a long time. When I woke up (wake) up, it was really dark. ⁸
So I just went to bed. While everyone was having (have) problems, ⁹
I was sleeping (sleep)! ¹⁰



4. Complete the story with the verbs in the box. Use the past continuous or the simple past.

~~Cook~~ go make stand turn fall hear see try

Terry and Wendy were cooking in the kitchen when the electricity suddenly _____ off.
Unfortunately, while Terry _____ to find a light, he _____ down. He _____ a
loud noise. When Wendy _____ the noise, she _____ by the window. While
she _____ around, she _____ something moves outside the window. What was it?