

PAST SIMPLE OR PAST CONTINUOUS

I. Complete the following sentences with your own ideas.

- 1 Matt phoned while we _____.
- 2 The doorbell rang while I _____.
- 3 We saw an accident while we _____.
- 4 Ann fell asleep while she _____.
- 5 The television was on, but nobody _____.

II. Past simple or past continuous?

1. I _____ while I _____ down the stairs. (fall, go)
2. He _____ very fast when the police _____ him. (drive, stop)
3. It _____ when we _____ home. (snow, leave)
4. I _____ your call because I _____ at that time. (not answer, work)
5. This morning I _____ and I _____ breakfast for everybody. (get up, make)
6. When I _____ her, she _____ a really nice purple dress. (see, wear)
7. Last Saturday we _____ late and we _____ the train. (get up, miss)
8. I _____ hello because you _____ very fast. (not say, walk)
9. I _____ happily when a loud noise _____. (sleep, wake me up)
10. What _____ when I _____ you last night? (you do, call)

III. Choose the correct past continuous and past simple forms for the gaps below.

1. After the conference, I ____ that a man ____ the walls of the building.
 - a. was seeing / was painting
 - b. saw / was painting
 - c. was seeing / painted
2. He was so angry that he ____ and ____.
 - a. was getting up / left
 - b. got up / was leaving
 - c. got up / left
3. I ____ the vase while I ____ the bookshelf.
 - a. broke / was cleaning
 - b. broke / cleaned
 - c. was breaking / was cleaning

4. As soon as we walked into the room, we ____ a noise. Someone ____ my computer.
- a. heard / used
 - b. were hearing / used
 - c. heard / was using
5. The bus in which the football team ____ had an accident, but nobody ____.
- a. were travelling / died
 - b. travelled / died
 - c. were travelling / were dying
6. I ____ the party, but Sonia ____ to leave.
- a. was enjoying / was wanting
 - b. enjoyed / was wanting
 - c. was enjoying / wanted
7. The police ____ him while he ____ to escape.
- a. caught / tried
 - b. caught / was trying
 - c. were catching / was trying
8. We ____ what to do, so we just called the police and ____.
- a. didn't know / waited
 - b. weren't knowing / waited
 - c. didn't know / were waiting
9. When I last ____ her she ____ high-heeled shoes.
- a. saw / wore
 - b. was seeing / was wearing
 - c. saw / was wearing
10. The sun ____, so we ____ our clothes and got into the water.
- a. was shining / took off
 - b. shone / took off
 - c. shone / were taking off

IV. Fill in the gaps with the correct past continuous and past simple forms of the verbs in brackets.

When I 1 _____ (arrive) at the station, Raimond 2 _____ (wait) for me. He 3 _____ (wear) a nice black suit and he 4 _____ (hold) a red rose in his right hand. When I 5 _____ (get off) the train, he 6 _____ (run) up to me and 7 _____ (hug) me tightly. It 8 _____ (rain) heavily so he 9 _____ (take off) his jacket and 10 _____ (put) it over my head. I 11 _____ (tell) Raimond to go to a café so that we could talk, but he 12 _____ (insist) on going to another place. While he 13 _____ (drive), I 14 _____ (throw) a look at him. He 15 _____ (smile), but he also 16 _____ (look) nervous. He finally 17 _____ (stop) his car on the top of a hill with fantastic views. It was so wonderful. We 18 _____ (get out) of the car, and he 19 _____ (kneel) in front of me and 20 _____ (take) a ring out of his pocket. "Kathy, will you..." he said. "Listen, Raimond, I want to break up with you," I interrupted.

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