SMART STEP
ASSOCIATES

UNIT 12 – WORKSHEET

UNIT 12

Past Simple vs. Past Progressive

TASK A. Make the past simple or Past Progressive according to each sentence:

1. What (you/do) _____when I (call) _____ you last night?
2. I (sit) _____ in a cafe when you (call) _____.
3. When you (arrive) _____ at the party, who (be) _____there?
4. Susie (watch) _____ a film when she (hear) _____ the noise.
5. Yesterday I (go) _____ to the library, next I (have) _____ a swim, later I (meet) _____ Julie for coffee.
6. We (play) _____ tennis when John (hurt) _____ his ankle.
7. What (they/do) _____ at 10pm last night - it was really noisy?
8. He (take) _____ a shower when the telephone (ring).
9. He (be) _____ in the shower when the telephone (ring) _____.
10. When I (walk) _____ into the room, everyone (work) _____.
11. It (be) _____ a day last September. The sun (shine) _____ and the birds(sing) _____. I (walk) _____along the street when I (meet) _____an old friend.
12. He (live) _____ in Russia when the Revolution (start) _____.
13. When her train (get) _____ to the station, we (wait) _____ on the platform.
14. He (be) _____ so annoying! He (always leave) _____ his things everywhere.
15. On holiday we (visit) _____ Rome, (see) _____ the Vatican, and (spend) _____ a few days at the beach.
16. Why (you/stand) _____on a chair when I (come) _____ into the room?
17. They (live) _____in Germany when they (be) _____ young.
18. At 7pm yesterday, we (listen) _____ to music.
19. When I (leave) _____ the house, it (snow) _____.
20. He (work) _____ in a bank when he (meet) _____ his wife.

TASK B. Put the verbs into the correct tense (Simple Past or Past Progressive):

1. When I (get) _____ up yesterday, the sun (shine) _____.
2. It (is) _____ a beautiful morning.
3. So I (decide) _____ cycle around a little.

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4. I (go) _____ to the shed and (take) _____ out my bike.
5. While I (cycle) _____ past some villages, I (see) _____ some people in their gardens.
6. One man (mow) _____ the grass while his wife (pick) _____ strawberries.
7. After one hour of cycling in sunshine, a big fat raincloud suddenly (appear) _____ and it (start) _____ to rain.
8. Luckily, a farmer (notice) _____ me and (tell) _____ me to come in.
9. While it (rain) _____ outside, I (sit) _____ in the farmer's house.
10. After a while, the sun (come) _____ out again.
11. I (thank) _____ the farmer for his hospitality and (move) _____ on.

TASK C. Put the verbs into the correct tense (simple past or past progressive).

1. When I (do) _____ the washing-up, I (break) _____ a plate.
2. While Tom (play) _____ the piano, his mother (do) _____ the washing-up.
3. He (drink_____) some juice and then he (eat) _____ a few chips.
4. I (have) _____ dinner when I suddenly (hear) _____ a loud bang.
5. When my father (work) _____ in the garden, an old friend (pass) _____ by to see him.
6. She (go) _____ to school, (take) _____ out her textbook and (begin) _____to learn.
7. When it (start) _____ to rain, our dog (want) _____ to come inside.
8. When Jane (do) _____ a language course in Ireland, she (visit) _____ Blarney Castle.
9. When I (be) _____ on my way home, I (see) _____ an accident.
10. I (not / understand) _____ what they (talk) _____ about.

TASK D. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb *(verb-ed / to be + verb-ing)*

1. We _____ (play) volleyball with Mary, when you _____ (call) me.
2. When the teacher _____(come) in, they _____ (study) English.
3. The baby _____ (sleep) when the telephone _____(ring).
4. As I _____ (walk) in the streets of Holland, I _____ (meet) an old friend of mine.
5. I _____ (lose) my car keys.
6. I was looking for my purse when I _____ (drop) my credit card.
7. My uncle _____ (take) me to the airport yesterday.
8. She _____ (dance) when she hurt her ankle.
9. It _____ (rain) heavily when I got up.
10. I _____ (see) the thief while he _____ (get) into my neighbor's house.

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