



PAST CONTINUOUS + PAST SIMPLE



We often use the **Past Continuous** with the **Past Simple** When a **long action** is interrupted by a **short action**

Long action **Past Continuous** WHILE → I **was watching** TV → action in progress
Short action **Past Simple** WHEN → The telephone **rang** → interrupted action

I **was watching** TV when the telephone **rang**
 (you/we/you/they) → **were** verb in **ing** **Past Continuous**
 (I) (he/she/it) → **was** **Past Simple**
 regular verbs → base form + d/ed/fed → lived, played, cried
 irregular verbs → base form → 2nd column → go, went, gone

BASIC COMBINATIONS

While	Past Continuous	,	Past Simple	While I was watching TV, the telephone rang
When	Past Simple	,	Past Continuous	When the telephone rang , I was watching TV
	Past Simple	while	Past Continuous	The telephone rang while I was watching TV
	Past Continuous	when	Past Simple	I was watching TV when the telephone rang

1. Match true sentences about life processes

- While I **was studying** **studied** I suddenly **was feeling** **felt** sleepy.
- I **was breaking** **broke** my leg when I **was skiing** **skied**.
- As I **was going** **went** to work, I **was seeing** **saw** an old friend.
- We **were watching** **watched** television when the power **were going** **went** off.
- What **were you doing** **did you do** when the plane **was landing** **landed** ?
- I **was looking** **looked** in my bag for my passport when I **was hearing** **heard** a shout.
- We **were jumping** **jumped** into a car that **was waiting** **waited** for the bus stop.
- I **was watching** **watched** TV while my wife **was sleeping** **slept**.
- When I **was taking** **took** the photo, the kids **were playing** **played**.
- While I **was having** **had** dinner, my father **was arriving** **arrived**.
- While I **was doing** **did** my homework, my mother **was cooking** **cooked**.
- She **was cleaning** **cleaned** when she **was hearing** **heard** the explosion.
- The plane **was flying** **flew** to Paris when it **was crashing** **crashed**.
- What **were you doing** **did you do** when I **was calling** **called** you last night?
- He **was taking** **took** a shower when the telephone **was ringing** **rang**.
- When the teacher **was saying** **said** "stop!", I still **was trying** **tried** to finish the exam.
- When Patrick **was running** **ran** for the ball, he **was falling** **fell** over.