

READ THE GRAMMAR NOTES AND STUDY PAST SIMPLE AND PAST CONTINUOUS.

past simple

We use the past simple for finished actions or situations in the past, past habits, regular past events or past actions that happened one after the other.

I **1 grew up** in Wales. My family **2 spoke** English.

past continuous

We use the past continuous to describe actions in progress in the past, especially when another action (past simple) interrupts the first one (past continuous).

While everyone in England **3 was watching** fashionable American TV shows, we **4 were learning** about farming.

I **5 was dreaming** of going to live in Paris when I **6 realised** that I needed French lessons.

NOW, COMPLETE THIS EXERCISE.

- 5** Choose the correct verb forms to complete the interview.
Are there any other examples of stative verbs in the text?

My Mexican summer

A Where did you go and why?

My grandparents are Mexican, but before this summer, I **'was not understanding / did not understand** much Spanish. So my brother and I **'were going / went** to my grandparents' house in Mexico to change that.

B How did you learn?

When we arrived, our grandparents **'were waiting / waited** to greet us at the airport in the town of Merida. We didn't use any books to learn Spanish, but we didn't need them. We **'were going / went** with our grandmother to the local market every day, where we **'were choosing / chose** something tasty for our dinner that day. One day, we **'were listening / listened** to Mexican songs on the radio while we **'were cooking / cooked** together, and I realised I could understand all the words!

C What did your grandfather teach you?

Most weekends we **'were exploring / explored** interesting places around town with my grandad. One day, he **'was shutting / shut** the car door on his finger. I **'was hearing / heard** him say a new word. 'What does that mean, Grandad?' I asked. 'You don't need to know that word,' he told me! I'm not bilingual yet, but I'm good at communicating in Spanish now.