

Grammar help

Past progressive

Affirmative and negative

1 Choose the correct answers.

They wasn't / weren't walking down the street.
1 Grandpa wasn't / weren't listening to the radio.
2 The men was / were robbing a bank.
3 I was / were talking to my friends.
4 You wasn't / weren't listening to your teacher.
5 Mom was / were cleaning the bathroom.
6 We wasn't / weren't shoplifting.
7 It was / were raining yesterday evening.

2 Complete the sentences with the affirmative (✓) or negative (✗) past progressive form of the verbs in parentheses.

They weren't doing (do) the cooking. (✗)
1 I thought they _____ (study) history. (✓)
2 You _____ (make) a cake. (✗)
3 He _____ (come) out of the sports center. (✗)
4 Mark _____ (wait) for his train. (✓)
5 I _____ (sleep) at 8 a.m. this morning. (✓)
6 You _____ (play) in the concert. (✗)
7 Emily _____ (talk) to her teacher. (✓)
8 Mom _____ (watch) the TV. (✗)
9 We _____ (walk) through the park. (✓)

yes / no questions and short answers

3 Complete the questions in the past progressive. Then write affirmative or negative short answers.

Were we living in Sao Paulo?

(we / live) in Sao Paulo?
(✗) No, we / you weren't.

1 _____
(you / have) dinner?
(✗) _____.

2 _____
(Leo / do) the ironing?
(✓) _____.

3 _____
(she / walk) home?
(✗) _____.

4 _____
(the boys / go) to the movies?
(✓) _____.

5 _____
(Dad / clean) the car?
(✓) _____.

4 Write sentences in the past progressive with the words below.



While / I / speak with my friend / my brother / play / soccer

While I was speaking with my friend, my brother was playing soccer.

1 We / cook / while / you / sleep

2 Kate / listen / to music / while / she / study

3 While / they / play / computer games / I / watch / TV

4 While / it / rain / we / sit / in the kitchen

5 Dad / climb / a mountain / while / Mom / do / a parachute jump

Past progressive and simple past + *when* / *while*

5 Check the correct option.

Were you walking down Wilson Street when the man **mugged** you?

a mugged b was mugging c mugs

1 Were you eating when we _____?

a arrived b were arriving c arrive

2 While I _____ my homework, I heard a strange noise.

a do b was doing c did

3 Emma was having lunch in a restaurant while the thieves _____ her house.

a burglarize b were burglarizing
c burglarized

4 While Luke was playing tennis, his friend _____ him.

a IMing b IMs c IMed

5 Ollie met his girlfriend while he _____ at college.

a studies b was studying c studied

6 Choose the correct answers.

When / **While** no one was looking, Ben took a cookie from the cupboard.

- I was having breakfast **when** / **while** my phone rang.
- They were talking about the party **when** / **while** they were eating.
- When** / **While** I started college, my parents were living in New York.
- Vicky found her MP3 player **when** / **while** she was cleaning her bedroom.