Unit 2 Culture

Lesson 1 Festivals

1 Grammar: past progressive
2 Grammar: simple past or past progressive
3 Grammar: *when* and *while*
4 Listening: Festa del Redentore
5 Reading: festivals in Japan

1 Complete the sentences with the correct past progressive form of the verbs in parentheses.

1 They_____ (celebrate) the Saints' Day festival when we arrived.
2 They_____ (build) the stage for the music festival for four days.
3 Martha and I _____ (live) in Madrid at the time.
4 The procession _____(go) down Rua da San Sebastian when the accident happened.
5 We _____ (not play) the music too loudly, were we?
6 _____ you _____(go) to tell me?
7 Donna _____ (look) forward to the craft exhibition, so she was sad when she heard that she couldn't go.
8 Michael _____ (not plan) to spend very long at the party, but then he changed his mind when his friends arrived.
9 Why_____ he _____ (look) at me in that strange way all afternoon?
10 I _____ (hope) to save some money for my vacation next year.

2 Complete the paragraph with the simple past or past progressive form of the verbs in parentheses.

I'll tell you about something disappointing that (1) _____ (happen) to me once. We (2) _____ (live) in Brazil at the time and I (3)_____ (teach) in a small school on the north-east coast. We decided to explore some of the country, so we (4) _____ (book) some tickets to travel to Rio de Janeiro. A colleague suggested going in February because this was the best time for carnival. We were planning to take a whole month's vacation, but then (5)_____ (decide) against it because we didn't really have enough money. Anyway, after we had booked our tickets, we found a hotel to stay in and (6)_____(arrange) to meet a friend who (7)_____ (study) at the university there. I (8) _____(look forward to) going so much that I could hardly think about anything else! Anyway, the day of our departure arrived and we (9) _____ (get) ready to leave when the telephone (10) _____ (ring). It was my father telling me my mother wasn't very well and I had to fly back home right away. I did, and luckily she was fine, but it was a shame I didn't manage to get to the best-known carnival in the world!

3 Check the sentences that are correct.

1 Kevin was taking a bath when I knocked on the door.
2 I was cooking while the telephone rang.
3 While Maggie was preparing lunch, Terry was watching a movie.
4 What was happening when you got there?
5 I was beginning to think they weren't coming while someone rang the doorbell.
6 What did you do when you found out he was seeing someone else?