

Past simple vs Past Continuous

Put the verbs into the correct tense

1. While Tom _____ (read), Amely _____ (watch) a documentary on TV.
2. Marvin _____ (come) home, _____ (switch) on the computer and _____ (check) his emails.
3. The thief _____ (sneak) into the house, _____ (steal) the jewels and _____ (leave) without a trace.
4. Nobody _____ (listen) while the teacher _____ (explain) the tenses.
5. While we _____ (do) a sight-seeing tour, our friends _____ (lie) on the beach.
6. He _____ (wake) up and _____ (look) at his watch.
7. The receptionist _____ (welcome) the guests and _____ (ask) them to fill in the form.
8. The car _____ (break) down and we _____ (have) to walk home.
9. The boys _____ (swim) while the girls _____ (sunbathe).
10. My father _____ (come) in, _____ (look) around and _____ (tell) me to tidy up my room.
11. As one group _____ (prepare) dinner, the others _____ (collect) wood for their campfire.
12. While the parents _____ (have) breakfast, their children _____ (run).
13. Martha _____ (turn) off the lights and _____ (go) to bed.
14. We _____ (wait) for Jane, when suddenly Louis _____ (come) around the corner.
15. I _____ (cycle) through the park, when I _____ (hear) a strange noise.
16. When he _____ (pass) her a message, the teacher _____ (look / not) .
17. I _____ (fall) asleep while I _____ (watch) TV last night.
18. Mike and Jane _____ (paint) the walls when their dog _____ (knock) over the paint pot.
19. Tom _____ (break) his leg while he _____ (play) frisbee.
20. The phone _____ (ring) when I _____ (sit) on the toilet.

Past Simple vs Past Perfect

1 We (watch) the film and we had dinner.

2 My father (be) annoyed because we hadn't done our homework

3 He found a job two years after he (leave) school.

4 They (move) before they had their baby.

5 My uncle bought a Porsche because he (win) the lottery.

6 She was very active and she (not drink) any coffee yesterday.

7 We (buy) a new house when the earthquake destroyed our home.

8 I (ask) the teacher because I didn't understand the question.

9 They (meet) before that day.

10 Paul and Tom didn't know each other although they (be) neighbours for ten years.