



Interrupted actions

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REMEMBER

When we want to describe an interrupted action, we use the **PAST CONTINUOUS** for the action that was **in progress** and the **PAST SIMPLE** for the action that **interrupted** it.

Example: Kate **was sunbathing** when it **started** to rain.

Read the sentences and choose the correct option.

1. I **watched** / **was watching** a DVD when my cat jumped on me.
2. Meg **was buying** / **bought** a dress last month.
3. Greg **was sleeping** / **slept** when someone **was knocking** / **knocked** on the door.
4. Mum **cooked** / **was cooking** dinner when she **cut** / **was cutting** her finger.
5. Dad **watered** / **was watering** the plants when it **was starting** / **started** to rain.
6. They **were walking** / **walked** to school last Monday because there was no bus.
7. I **ate** / **was eating** a sandwich when I **found** / **was finding** an insect inside it.



Now, put the verbs in brackets into the past continuous or past simple.

1. Jack **(play)** a video game when his brother **(enter)** the room.

2. I **(study)** for my English test when my mother **(come)** home from work.

3. I **(read)** a book when the lights **(go)** out.

4. Emma **(wash)** the dishes when the telephone **(ring)**.

5. My parents **(swim)** when the storm **(break)** out.

6. My friends **(play)** a football match when Tim **(fall)** and **(cut)** his knee.

