

Past Continuous Grammar



Activity 1:

Change the sentences below using the correct past continuous form.

1. They are playing a game.

2. She is exercising at the gym.

3. I'm reading in the library.

4. They aren't learning Spanish.

5. He isn't eating fried chicken.

Activity 2:

Read and complete the story with the correct form of the verb. Use the past continuous form.

Three years ago, my best friend and I **1** (live) in Cape Town for a few months. We had so many unforgettable experiences there. The week before we had to return home, my friend broke his arm. I know what you're thinking, "How did he break his arm? What **2** (be) he **3** (do) at the time?" We **4** (be / not / surf) but he **5** (be / play) rugby with some friends from the sports club, when he tripped and fell.

Activity 3:

Look at the conversation and complete the questions.

1. Q: _____ (be) they _____ (play) a game or _____ (eat) some pizza?

2. Q: What _____ (be) you _____ (watch) when I called you?

A: Nothing much, I was watching the news.

3. Q: _____ (be) she _____ (study) for the exam?

A: No, she wasn't, she was drinking coffee with some friends.

4. Q: _____ (be) I _____ (work) when you arrived?

A: Yes, you were. I don't think you heard me come in.

5. Q: Why _____ (be) you _____ (smile) at them?

A: Because I liked their colourful hat.

Activity 4:

Use the words in the box to help you write sentences about yourself in the past.

learning	cooking	having	cleaning	reading	talking
----------	---------	--------	----------	---------	---------

Disclaimer: This resource has been made for the purpose of teaching English language learners. We know that students can be learning English in many different places, in many different ways and at age, so we try to keep these resources as general as possible.

There are many acronyms associated with English language teaching. These include (but are not limited to) ELT, TEFL, EFL, ELL, EAL and ESOL. While the term ESL may not fully represent the linguistic backgrounds of all students, it is the most widely recognised term for English language teaching globally. Therefore, we use the term 'ESL' in the names of our resources to make them easy to find but they are suitable for any student learning to speak English.