

# 10 The past continuous

The past continuous is used in English to talk about actions or events that were in progress at some time in the past. It is formed with "was" or "were" and a present participle.



## 10.1 MATCH THE PICTURES TO THE CORRECT SENTENCES



I was decorating the kitchen on Wednesday evening.

The children were watching TV when I got home.

I was mowing the lawn when you tried to call.

This time last year, Craig was on vacation in Hawaii.



## 10.2 CROSS OUT THE INCORRECT WORDS IN EACH SENTENCE

I ~~was eating~~ / ~~ate~~ my dinner when there ~~was being~~ / ~~was~~ a knock on the door.

- 1 We ~~were sunbathing~~ / ~~sunbathed~~ when it ~~was beginning~~ / ~~began~~ to rain.
- 2 When I ~~was meeting~~ / ~~met~~ Tracy yesterday, she ~~was wearing~~ / ~~wore~~ a lovely dress.
- 3 It ~~was being~~ / ~~was~~ a beautiful day and the birds ~~were singing~~ / ~~sang~~ in the trees.
- 4 I ~~was hearing~~ / ~~heard~~ a loud bang when I ~~was watching~~ / ~~watched~~ TV last night.
- 5 It ~~was starting~~ / ~~started~~ to rain while I ~~was talking~~ / ~~talked~~ on the telephone.



### 10.3 FILL IN THE GAPS, PUTTING THE WORDS IN THE CORRECT ORDER

you      a      were      suit      wearing

Why were you wearing a suit yesterday, Paul?

in      the      hiking      were      Alps

1 We \_\_\_\_\_ this time last year.

he      driving      work      saw      was      when      to

2 Colm \_\_\_\_\_ a deer.

I      talking      were      when      you      to      you      saw

3 Who \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday?

raining      again      wasn't      it

4 It was cloudy yesterday, but at least \_\_\_\_\_.



### 10.4 FILL IN THE GAPS BY PUTTING THE VERBS IN THE CORRECT TENSES

We were walking (walk) in the forest when we saw (see) a bear.

1 Mia visit (visit) Sydney while she travel (travel) around Australia.

2 The children read (read) when I enter (enter) the classroom.

3 Ravi see (see) an old castle when he walk (walk) through the forest.

4 The sun shine (shine) when we set off (set off) on the journey home.