LANGUAGE IN ACTION

Past simple and past continuous with *when*, *while* and *as*

1 ★ **Complete the sentences with the past continuous form of the verbs in the box.**

do	look	not watch
rain	~~sleep~~	work

1 I was sleeping at 11 o'clock last night. That's why I didn't check my emails.
2 It _____ yesterday, so I didn't go out.
3 My mum _____ late at the office and came home late.
4 I _____ for clothes online, but I didn't see anything I liked.
5 What _____ you _____ in the kitchen? I heard a strange noise.
6 She _____ videos on the computer – she was studying!

2 ★★ **Complete the conversation with the past simple form of the verbs in brackets.**

EMMA Hey, Ben! [1] Did you have (you / have) a nice holiday?
BEN Hmm, not bad. I [2] _____ (help) my uncle in his shop.
EMMA Why [3] _____ (you / do) that?
BEN Because my aunt [4] _____ (be) ill, and he [5] _____ (not have) time to go to the shop every day.
EMMA Wow! That's really kind of you. [6] _____ (it / be) difficult?
BEN Yeah. But my uncle [7] _____ (give) me some money after, so I [8] _____ (buy) some new clothes.
EMMA Cool!

3 ★★ **Write sentences with the past simple and past continuous and the words in brackets.**

1 I / sleep / you / call / me last night (when)
I was sleeping when you called me last night.
2 he / finish / his book / he / wait / for the bus (as)
_____
3 we / live / in London / we / go / to lots of museums (while)
_____
4 she / not see / the car / she / cross / the street (when)
_____
5 I / not cry / I / watch / that inspirational film (while)
_____
6 they / say / goodbye / they / leave / the party (as)
_____

4 ★★ **Circle the correct options.**

One day my wife was ill, so I [1] *drove / was driving* to the chemist to get some medicine. While I [2] *walked / was walking* back to the car, I noticed that I [3] *didn't have / wasn't having* my keys. They were still in the car with my phone! I [4] *kicked / was kicking* the wheels of my car when a teenager [5] *was arriving / arrived* on his bike and [6] *asked / was asking* what was wrong. I told him the story and I [7] *explained / was explaining* that we had another car key at home, but it was five miles away. The boy said, 'I'll get the keys' and then [8] *gave / was giving* me his phone to call my wife to explain what was happening. After 30 minutes, he [9] *came / was coming* back with the keys. As I [10] *opened / was opening* my car, he rode away – before I could thank him!

5 ★★★ **Write a short paragraph in your notebook about a time when someone helped you or you helped someone. Use the past simple and past continuous.**

LIVEWORKSHEETS