

Past continuous tense (3) C while

Miss Choi was playing the piano
while we were singing.



We use **while** to link two continuous actions that happened at the same time in the past.

My parents were tidying the kitchen **while** I was watering the plants.



Write sentences using 'while' and the past continuous tense. Follow the example.

1 Joe (feed) the dog / Emma (iron) the clothes

Joe was feeding the dog while Emma was ironing the clothes.



2 The girls (dance) / their parents (chat)

3 Brian (wait) in the clinic / I (walk) home

4 Pat and I (play) tennis / Ethan (skip)

5 Mrs Moore (take) a nap / her dog (play)

6 we (have) a party at home / Dad (work) in the office

Date: _____

Past continuous tense (4) C while • when

A young lady was going to work this morning **when** her car crashed into a tree. She was talking on her mobile phone **while** she was driving.



We usually use **while** to link two continuous actions that happened at the same time in the past.

I was chatting with Anna **while** I was walking the dog.

We usually use **when** to link one longer action and one shorter action in the past.

We can also use **when** to link two short actions.

I was walking the dog **when** I saw a famous singer.

a longer action

a shorter action

He smiled **when** I saw him.

short actions

Grammar
in Context

Complete the blog entry using 'while', 'when' and the simple past tense or the past continuous tense form of the verbs given.

A Fun Day 18th December 20XX

Erica's blog

We had a talent show at school today. It was great!

The Dance Club did a show for us. Some girls

1 _____ (dance) 2 _____ a little boy walked onto the stage. He wanted to join in! The little boy

3 _____ (dance) 4 _____

the girls 5 _____ (walk) down the stage. It was really funny!

Then it was my turn. I did some magic tricks. I 6 _____ (speak) to the audience 7 _____ I 8 _____ (drop) my magic wand! I picked it up quickly and pretended it was part of my act. I don't think anyone even noticed!