## Past simple and past continuous

## Units 5-6, 17

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Here is part of the website of a rock star called Colin Boyle. Put the verbs into the correct form: past simple or past continuous.

俞 Colin Boyle was born in 1983 near Dublin, Ireland. In 1996 he became seriously ill. While he (1) was recovering (recover), his uncle (2) ...... (give) him an old drumkit. He enjoyed playing and practised in a friend's garage every evening. One day in 1998, John Leaf, the manager of several successful musicians, (3) ...... (pass) the garage when he (4) ...... (hear) Colin practising. He (5) ..... [bang] on the garage door and (6) ..... (invite) Colin to appear in one of the concerts he (7) ..... (organise) that year. Colin, however, (8) ...... (refuse) Leaf's invitation, because at that time he (9) ..... (prepare) for some important school exams. Colin (10) ...... (pass) his exams and (11) ...... (go) to university to study engineering. At university he (12) ...... (meet) Kim O'Malley, who (13) ...... (study) chemistry. Kim played the saxophone. Being students, they rarely (14) ...... [have] much money and they usually (15) ...... [work] as waiters at weekends. One evening in April 2001, while Colin and Kim (16) ...... [serve] customers, the manager (17) ...... (announce) that there would be no live music in the restaurant that night as the regular band could not come. Colin and Kim (18) ...... (persuade) the manager to let them play. Everyone (19) ...... (be) amazed to hear how good they (20) ...... [be]. In the next six months Colin and Kim (21) ...... (earn) so much money they (22) ...... (decide) to leave university and go on tour. Their success has

## Complete the first sentence with the verb in the past continuous. Write a second sentence with the verb in the past simple to say what happened next. Use your own ideas.

1 When the phone rang, I was watching TV. I answered the phone. 2 I \_\_\_\_\_\_ when it started to rain. When we came out of the cinema, the sun ..... 4

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