

Revision of past tenses

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Review: past simple and past continuous

A Complete the story by matching the phrases in the box to the correct places.

- a while it was running
- b and showing me his photos while we were eating
- c when John was speaking
- d because we were hungry
- e it ran away
- f when it happened

- 1 I was visiting my friend John in Australia ¹ _____ f
- 2 We were having dinner early ² _____
- 3 He was telling me about his family ³ _____
- 4 Suddenly, a kangaroo jumped through the window ⁴ _____
- 5 While we were thinking what to do next, ⁵ _____
- 6 He took a photo of the kangaroo ⁶ _____

C Underline the correct option. Sometimes more than one option is possible.

- 1 I was having / had a shower when my friend called.
- 2 While Sally was walking / walked to the station, she met Harry.
- 3 Tom went to bed and was saying / said, 'Goodnight.'
- 4 Did you get angry when she finally was telling / told you?
- 5 We danced while the music was playing / played.
- 6 I was meeting / met David many years ago.
- 7 Were the Romans using / Did the Romans use paper?
- 8 When she wasn't watching / didn't watch, I took another biscuit.

B Match each picture to the correct sentence.



- 1 She was running when she saw him. a
- 2 She ran when she saw him. b



- 3 We went home while it was raining.
- 4 When it started raining, we went home.



- 5 We talked about it when we got home.
- 6 We talked about it while we were going home.



- 7 When he finished his lunch, Dad read the paper.
- 8 Dad read the paper while he was finishing his lunch.



D Complete these stories using the correct past simple or past continuous forms of the verbs in brackets.



The clock ¹ broke (break) while the children
² (play) football in the house.
 The clock ³ (fall) when the ball
⁴ (hit) it. The accident ⁵
 (happen) while their parents ⁶ (come) home.



Jill ⁷ (drink) her coffee when she
⁸ (hear) her phone. It was her mother. While
 they ⁹ (speak), a man ¹⁰ (run)
 to the table and ¹¹ (give) Jill some flowers.

E Circle the correct option.

Police officer: What ¹ when you saw the elephant?

Driver: I ² through the park.

Police officer: ³ quickly?

Driver: No, I ⁴ fast because there were a lot of animals. My wife ⁵ out of the window and watching some lions. She ⁶ to take some photos of them but while she ⁷ the camera out of her bag, an elephant ran at the car!

Police officer: Why ⁸ away while the elephant ⁹?

Driver: The elephant was very fast. I only ¹⁰ the elephant when it hit our car.

- 1 a do you do b was you doing c were you doing
- 2 a was driving b drove c were driving
- 3 a Did you go b Were you going c Was you going
- 4 a wasn't driving b weren't driving c didn't drive
- 5 a was looking b were looking c looked
- 6 a were wanting b was wanting c wanted
- 7 a got b was getting c were getting
- 8 a didn't you drive b wasn't you driving c weren't you driving
- 9 a ran b was running c were running
- 10 a were seeing b was seeing c saw

F Make sentences from the words and write them in your notebook. Put one verb in the past simple and one verb in the past continuous.

- 1 I / shop / when / meet / her
I was shopping when I met her.
- 2 While / we / eat / breakfast / the letter / arrive
- 3 Sarah / not go / because / she / not feel / very well
- 4 As / I / fall / my parachute / suddenly / open
- 5 you / have / a shower / when / I / phone?
- 6 Gavin / break / his arm / while / he / do / judo

G Make excuses for the following situations using the past continuous (and past simple, if you want).

The excuses can be funny!

- 1 Why are you late for school?
I was taking my pet kangaroo for a walk and it ran away.
- 2 Why are your shoes dirty?

- 3 Why did you eat all the chocolates?

- 4 Why didn't you do your homework?

- 5 Why are you sleeping in class?

- 6 Why didn't you answer the telephone?

H Circle the correct option.

- 1 We went to the cinema last night and _____ a film. It was excellent.
a watching b watched c were watching
- 2 She didn't understand the game. While I _____ the instructions, she was writing a text.
a was explaining b am explaining c explained
- 3 The man took her bag and _____ away with it. We never saw him again.
a run b ran c was running
- 4 She hurt her head when she fell off her bike. She _____ a helmet.
a not wearing b didn't wear c wasn't wearing
- 5 A: What _____ when you heard the noise?
B: I ran outside to help.
a did you do b were you doing c you were doing
- 6 Were you playing hockey when you broke your nose?
B: Yes, I _____.
a did b were c was