

Simple past (prétérit) or Past Continuous (be+ing) Exercises



Exercise 1 Complete with simple past or past continuous. Use the audio for help/correction.

- 1) I _____ (walk) in a park when it _____ (start) to rain.
- 2) Peter _____ (cut) his finger. It happened when he _____ (cook).
- 3) Yesterday my mother _____ (arrive) at the airport at 6pm. I _____ (wait) for her with Simon. We _____ . (chat)
- 4) _____ you _____ (sleep) yesterday when the accident _____ (happen) ?
- 5) When he _____ (enter) the room, everyone _____ (laugh). He _____ (shout) and everyone _____ (calm) down.
- 6) How fast _____ you _____ (drive) when the accident _____ (happen)?
- 7) What _____ you _____ (do) at 10 o'clock yesterday? I _____ (sleep).
- 8) What _____ you _____ (do) this weekend? I _____ (go) skiing and I _____ (swim) in the sea.
- 9) She _____ (meet) Henry as she _____ (wait) for a train. They _____ (have) a coffee and _____ (decide) to meet again soon.
- 10) Yesterday I _____ (have) lunch with Peter. Then I _____ (go) to the supermarket and _____ (buy) some chocolat.
- 11) Yesterday when Jessica _____ (call) we _____ (have) lunch.

Exercise 2 Complete the story. Use the audio for help or correction.

We _____ (have) a party yesterday. Everything _____
(go) well, people _____ (have) fun, some people
_____ (dance), some _____ (play) games. It
was great! But then everything _____ (start) to go wrong.

I _____ (chat) with a friend when we _____
(hear) a siren. It _____ (be) a fire truck! We ran downstairs to see what
_____ (happen). When we _____ (step) outside,
the firemen _____ (get) ready, unrolling the hose and setting the ladder.

"What's happening!" I _____ (ask). "There's a fire" _____ (shout)
the policeman

I _____ (look) up and _____ (can't) believe my eyes : A fire
_____ (burn) on the roof of the building!

"The party is ruined" I _____ (moan). I _____ (be) very sad.

**Exercise 3 Ask the question with the verb in Past Simple or continuous
(sometimes both are correct)**

1) Q What _____ you _____ at 3pm yesterday? (do) A I was sleeping .

2) Q What _____ you _____ ? (buy) A I bought a T-shirt .

3) Q Where _____ he _____ when you met him? (go) A He was
going to the swimming pool.

4) Q _____ I _____ ? (sleep) A Yes and you were snoring very
loudly!

5) Q Where _____ they _____ ? (go) A I think they went to Italy.

6) Q Why _____ she _____ ? (shout) A Because she was angry.

7) Q When _____ you _____ ? (finish) A At 7 pm.

8) Q What _____ they _____ about? (talk) A I don't know I wasn't
listening.

9) Q _____ he _____ (drive) very fast? A No he wasn't.

10) Q _____ he _____ (play) well? A Yes he did.