

I was doing (past continuous) and I did (simple past)



Jack **was reading** a book.



His phone **rang**.



He **stopped** reading.



He **answered** his phone.

What **happened**? His phone **rang**. (*simple past*)

What **was** Jack **doing** when his phone rang? } (*past continuous*)
He **was reading** a book.

What **did** he **do** when his phone rang? } (*simple past*)
He **stopped** reading and **answered** his phone.

Jack began reading *before* his phone rang.

So *when* his phone rang, he **was reading**.

he began
reading

his phone
rang

he stopped
reading

he answered
his phone

he was reading

B

Simple past

- ☐ A: What **did** you **do** yesterday morning?
B: We **played** tennis. (from 10:00 to 11:30)

Start 10:00 Finish 11:30

we **played**
completed action

- ☐ Jack **read** a book yesterday.
(= from beginning to end)
☐ **Did** you **watch** the game on TV last night?
☐ It **didn't rain** while we were on vacation.

Past continuous

- ☐ A: What **were** you **doing** at 10:30?
B: We **were playing** tennis.

Start 10:00

we **were playing**
unfinished action

- ☐ Jack **was reading** a book when his phone rang.
☐ **Were** you **watching** TV when I called you?
☐ It **wasn't raining** when I got up.

- ☐ I **started** work at 9:00 and **finished** at 4:30. At 2:30 I **was working**.
☐ It **was raining** when we **went** out. (= it started raining *before* we went out)
☐ I **saw** Emily and Sam this morning. They **were waiting** at the bus stop.
☐ Grace **fell** asleep while she **was reading**.

14.1 Look at the pictures. Put the verbs in the correct form, *past continuous* or *simple past*.



Emily broke (break) her arm last week.
It (happen) when
she (paint) her
room. She (fall)
off the ladder.



The train (arrive)
at the station, and Adriana
(get) off. Two friends of hers, Jon and
Rachel, (wait) to
meet her.



Yesterday Sue
(walk) down the street when she
..... (meet) James.
He (go) to
the station to catch a train, and he
..... (carry) a bag.
They (stop) to
talk for a few minutes.

14.2 Put the verb into the *past continuous* or *simple past*.

- 1 A: What was the weather like when you got (get) up this morning?
B: It was raining (rain).
- 2 A: Was Emma busy when you went to see her?
B: Yes, she (study).
- 3 A: (Eric/call) you this morning?
B: Yes, he (call) while I (have) breakfast.
- 4 A: Was Natalie at work today?
B: No, she (not/go) to work. She was sick.
- 5 A: How fast (you/drive) when the police
..... (stop) you?
B: I'm not sure, but I (not/drive) very fast.
- 6 A: (your team / win) the baseball game yesterday?
B: No, the weather was very bad, so we (not/play).
- 7 A: How (you/break) the window?
B: We (play) baseball. I (hit) the ball
and it (break) the window.
- 8 A: (you/see) Jenny last night?
B: Yes, she (wear) a very nice jacket.
- 9 A: What (you/do) at 2:00 this morning?
B: I (sleep).
- 10 A: I (lose) my key last night.
B: How (you/get) into your apartment?
A: I (climb) in through a window.