

59 What was happening when?

To report on past events, such as a crime or accident, you often need to explain what else was happening at the time. Use the past continuous to do this.

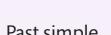
 **New language** Past continuous

 **Aa Vocabulary** Verb / noun collocations

 **New skill** Talking about events at given times

59.1 KEY LANGUAGE THE PAST CONTINUOUS

English uses the past continuous to talk about actions that were in progress at a certain time in the past.

 **I knocked on your door at noon but you weren't at home. What were you doing?**



11:30AM

12:00PM

12:30PM

 Past continuous



I was having lunch with a friend.



59.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES THE PAST CONTINUOUS

Sorry I missed your call. **I was mowing** the lawn.



He didn't go to the party because **he was working** late.



This time last week, **we were hiking** in Peru.



59.3 HOW TO FORM THE PAST CONTINUOUS

Use "was" or "were" followed by the verb with "-ing" to form the past continuous.





59.4 FILL IN THE GAPS BY PUTTING THE VERBS IN THE PAST CONTINUOUS

The children were playing  outside yesterday afternoon.

1 They _____  in the choir last night. It was a very good concert.

2 You _____  on the phone at lunchtime today. I didn't want to interrupt your call.

3 Sorry I didn't answer the phone. I _____  my dinner when you called.

4 She _____  down my road earlier today. I waved, but she didn't see me.

5 He _____  his homework when his friend arrived. So he still has lots to do.

6 Ethan _____  apples outside this morning. They look absolutely delicious!



59.5 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO, THEN NUMBER THE PICTURES IN THE ORDER THEY ARE DESCRIBED

A police officer is interviewing the owner of a house where a burglary has taken place.





59.6 READ THE NOTES AND FILL IN THE GAPS IN THE SUMMARY USING THE PAST CONTINUOUS

At 10:30, Mr. Black was gardening when he saw a man get into a car. The man _____ jeans and a black t-shirt. At 10:37, Mrs. Gomez _____ back from the stores. Ten minutes later, she saw the same man in a car. He _____ very fast. Mr. Chandra _____ his car at 10:30. At 10:38, he also saw the same man. The suspect _____ up and down the road, and _____ at all the houses. Mr. Chandra saw him again at 10:45. This time, he _____ the house next door, and _____ a big, heavy-looking bag.

Time	Name	Activity
10:30	Mr. Black	Gardening.
10:30	Mr. Chandra	Wash car.
10:35	Mr. Black	Saw man in jeans and black t-shirt
		get into car.
10:37	Mrs. Gomez	Walk back from stores.
10:38	Mr. Chandra	Saw same man walk up and down road, looking at houses.
10:45	Mr. Chandra	Saw man leave next door, carrying big bag.
10:47	Mrs. Gomez	Saw same man driving fast car.



59.7 SAY THE SENTENCES OUT LOUD, FILLING IN THE GAPS BY PUTTING THE VERBS IN THE PAST CONTINUOUS

I was cleaning (clean) the kitchen.



1 You _____ (vacuum) the living room.



2 She _____ (work) outside.



3 They _____ (wash) the car.



4 We _____ (walk) home.



5 He _____ (look) at houses.



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59.8 READ THE LEAFLET AND WRITE THE HIGHLIGHTED COLLOCATIONS NEXT TO THEIR DEFINITIONS

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Thank you for joining the fight against crime!

REMEMBER: It **takes time** to build a good team, so it's worth **having a discussion** with your neighbors in order to **take a view** on who does what, and decide who should **take charge**.

It's best to have two people "on watch" at the same time. This means that, if you **make a discovery**, you should **make an effort** to discuss it with your neighbor in order to **make sense of** what you've seen.

Once you are sure the activity is suspicious, you need to **have a plan** about what to do. It's tempting to rush things if you want to **make progress**, but don't approach a suspect, unless you are certain it's safe to do so. Criminals will **take advantage** of any situation if they **have the chance** to do so and you may put yourself in danger.

Lead a team

= take charge

1 Put work into something

= _____

2 Understand

= _____

3 Know what to do

= _____

4 Happen slowly

= _____

5 Talk about things

= _____

6 Have an opportunity

= _____

7 Form an opinion

= _____

8 Benefit from a situation

= _____

9 Find something out

= _____

10 Achieve something

= _____

**Aa**

59.9 FILL IN THE GAPS USING THE PHRASES IN THE PANEL

You need to make an effort if you want to succeed.

- 1 This project will _____, but I must get it right.
- 2 Thanks for helping me _____ my homework.
- 3 It's good to _____ to solve problems.
- 4 Let's meet up next week if we _____.
- 5 You must not let people _____ of you.

take time

~~make an effort~~

take advantage

have a discussion

have the chance

make sense of



59 ✓ CHECKLIST

Past continuous

Aa Verb / noun collocations

Talking about events at given times