

The Past Continuous Exercise

SUBJECT + WAS/WERE + VERB + ING

I was sleeping

A Fill the gaps using the verb in brackets in the **past continuous** tense.

- 1 I letters all day yesterday. (write)
- 2 You very slow about it. (be)
- 3 You on the phone for hours and hours. (talk)
- 4 They much business before lunch. (do NEGATIVE)
- 5 She to me all week. Silly cow. (speak NEGATIVE)
- 6 It for long. (rain NEGATIVE)
- 7 What you when I phoned yesterday? (do)
- 8 you TV when it happened? (watch)
- 9 What you at the party? (wear)
- 10 He horrible to everyone, the nasty pig! (be)
- 11 I computer games all morning. (play)
- 12 We all afternoon in the library. (revise)

What you were doing when... something suddenly happened!

Past continuous



Past simple

B Fill the gaps using the verb in brackets in the **past continuous** and **past simple**.

- 1 I (watch) TV when a bird into the window. (fly)
- 2 The Prime Minister (relax) on holiday while the country in crisis. (be)
- 3 Collin (have) a shower when Angelina on the door. (knock)
- 4 We (have) a coffee when we the news on the radio. (hear)
- 5 The riots (start) when the President the country. (visit)
- 6 Frank (pick) his nose when the accident (happen)
- 7 The earthquake (begin) when we chess. (play)





Answers

A

- 1 I was writing letters all day yesterday.
- 2 You were being very slow about it.
- 3 You were talking on the phone for hours and hours.
- 4 They weren't doing much business before lunch.
- 5 She wasn't speaking to me all week. Silly cow.
- 6 It wasn't raining for long.
- 7 What were you doing when I phoned yesterday?
- 8 Were you watching TV when it happened?
- 9 What were you wearing at the party?
- 10 He was being horrible to everyone, the nasty pig!
- 11 I was playing computer games all morning.
- 12 We were revising all afternoon in the library.

B

- 1 I was watching (watch) TV when a bird flew into the window.
- 2 The Prime Minister was relaxing (relax) on holiday while the country was in crisis.
- 3 Collin was having (have) a shower when Angelina knocked on the door.
- 4 We were having (have) a coffee when we heard the news on the radio.
- 5 The riots started (start) when the President was visiting the country.
- 6 Frank was picking (pick) his nose when the accident happened .
- 7 The earthquake began (begin) when we were playing chess.

