

Past Simple Vs Past Continuous



Circle the correct verb form in each of the following sentences.



- a) Mary **prepared / was preparing** lunch when they **came / was coming**.
- b) Tom was very unlucky. It **rained / was raining** every day during his holidays.
- c) Who was that nice girl you **talked / were talking** to when I **walked / was walking** by the pub?
- d) Last weekend Susan **fell / was falling** and **broke/ was breaking** her leg.
- e) When I **entered / was entering** the cafeteria Mary **had / was having** lunch with Peter.
- f) We **drove/ were driving** to Berlin in Robert's new car.
- g) The sun **shone / was shining** brightly when I **got up / was getting up** this morning.
- h) Ann finally **told / was telling** us the whole story about Peter.



Read the following sentences and put the verbs in brackets in either the Past Simple or the Past Continuous. Put any other words in brackets in the correct place.

- a) As Sophie _____(walk) up Regent Street she _____(meet) an old friend from college.
- b) When _____(father/arrive) yesterday?
He _____(arrive) late. The train _____(be)delayed due to an accident.
- c) Who _____(you/ speak) to on the phone when I _____(come)in?
- d) Mary _____(read) in bed when she _____(hear) a strange noise downstairs.
- e) When Mr. Lawrence _____(leave) home at 8.30 this morning, the sun _____(shine) brightly. However, by 10 o'clock it _____(rain) heavily.
- f) Sebastian _____(arrive) at Susan's house a little before 11 a.m., but she _____(not/be) there. She _____(study) at the library.
- g) The fireman _____(rescue) a 75-year-old woman who _____(be) trapped on the second floor of the burning building.
- h) _____(you/do) any shopping yesterday?
- i) Yesterday Jane _____(fall) and _____(hurt) herself when she _____(ride) her bicycle.
- j) What _____(Peter / do) when you _____(knock) on his door?
- k) Helen _____(wear) her dress to the party last night.