

Past Simple / Past Continuous

A Circle the correct answer.

- The sun when I looked out of the window.
a) was shining b) shone
- What when you saw him at the dance?
a) did he wear b) was he wearing
- They spaghetti for dinner last night.
a) made b) were making
- They for their friends an hour ago.
a) were waiting b) waited
- We the house twice last week.
a) cleaned b) was cleaning
- While Sam his homework, I was playing the guitar.
a) is doing b) was doing

B Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets. Use the Past Simple or Past Continuous.

- I *saw* (see) Helen yesterday afternoon.
- The girls (play) basketball at 3.00 pm.
- We (leave) the party at midnight.
- Jane (not do) her homework yesterday.
- The rain (stop) five minutes ago.
- you (swim) in the sea at 6.00 am?
- We (arrive) at the bus stop too late.
- How you (break) the window?

C Fill in the blanks with the Past Simple or Past Continuous form of the verb in brackets.

- While I *was swimming*. (swim) in the river, I *saw* (see) some frogs.
- Jim (not pay) attention when he (drive) his car into a tree.
- What you (do) while she (sleep)?
- Everyone (sleep) when the robbers (break in).
- your friend (stand) outside when you (come) home?
- It (start) raining while we (play) tennis.
- We (arrive) at the station just as the train (leave).
- I'm sorry. I (not listen) while you (talk).

D Complete the sentences with *while* or *when*.

- We were playing basketball *when* it began to rain.
- I was doing my homework, the telephone rang.
- my father came home last night, we were making dinner.
- The dog was barking we were sleeping.



Past Simple / Past Continuous – Answers

A 1 a 2 b 3 a 4 a 5 a 6 b

B 1 saw 5 stopped
2 were playing 6 Were ... swimming
3 left 7 arrived
4 didn't do 8 did ... break

C 1 was swimming, saw
2 wasn't paying, drove
3 were ... doing, was sleeping
4 was sleeping, broke in
5 Was ... standing, came
6 started, were playing
7 arrived, was leaving
8 wasn't listening, were talking

D 1 when 2 While 3 When 4 while

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