

PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE



A) Fill in the blanks with **was** or **were** to complete the sentences below.

1. William _____ doing his English homework when I arrived home in the afternoon.
2. _____ Sarah and David tidying their bookcases?
3. Where _____ your dad going at 7:45 this morning?
4. We _____ just listening to music when you came.
5. The children _____ making a snowman in front of the school building when their teacher saw them.
6. I didn't hear you, mum. I _____ listening to music in my room with my brother, Lawrence.
7. They _____ playing volleyball when Judy fell and broke her left arm yesterday.
8. My grandma _____ looking at the family album when she suddenly started crying.
9. Mrs. Webb _____ riding her bicycle on the street when she met one of her old friends.
10. I _____ reading a science magazine when I found an interesting article on global warming and seals.

B) Fill in the blanks with **was**, **wasn't**, **were** or **weren't** to complete the sentences below.

1. I _____ having a shower half an hour ago, but the water wasn't warm enough. Is there a problem?
2. Donna _____ listening to the teacher, so she couldn't give the correct answer to this question.
3. Lucy and Ted _____ going to the playground. They were actually going to the amusement park.
4. My mother _____ making a chocolate cake when returned from school yesterday afternoon.
5. We _____ sleeping at 11 p.m. last night. There was an exciting film on TV and we were watching it.
6. Kenneth _____ flying his kite with some friends when I last saw him in the football pitch.
7. The Thompsons _____ celebrating Ronald's tenth birthday when the electricity went off.
8. She _____ talking with her boss when a man with a funny hat and suit came into the office.
9. Jeffrey _____ driving fast, so it was not his fault.
10. Jacop and Cynthia _____ walking to school when they heard the explosion last Wednesday.

C) Answer the questions about yourself.

1. What were you doing at eleven o'clock last night?

2. What was your dad doing at 8 o'clock yesterday evening?

3. What was your mum doing at 7 a.m. this morning?

4. Were you doing homework at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon?

5. Were you watching TV at nine o'clock yesterday morning?

D) Rewrite the sentences with the subjects in brackets.

1. Sharon was swimming in the river when she saw a small turtle under the water. (The boys) _____
2. The students weren't doing anything when Mrs. Hall came into the classroom. (I) _____
3. Paul and Mark were building a kennel for their dog, Oscar at about 9 a.m. (Jason) _____
4. I was fishing in the lake when a frightening storm started yesterday. (Two friends) _____
5. We were walking past the police station when a car crashed into a lorry. (My mum) _____
6. Our neighbour was walking to work because there was a problem with her car. (Mr. Parker) _____
7. They weren't playing football when I came because it was raining heavily. (George) _____
8. Our physical education teacher was skipping rope when the bell rang. (The girls) _____
9. My parents were having a barbeque when suddenly a fire started in the garden. (Mrs. Cox) _____
10. When the earthquake happened, Mr. Knight was sleeping in his bed. (The kids) _____

E) Read the answers and write questions to the underlined words.

1. _____ ?
The teachers were playing table tennis in the gym.
2. _____ ?
I was talking to Mr. Robinson a few minutes ago.
3. _____ ?
Karen was watching an exciting action film when she fell asleep on the sofa last night.
4. _____ ?
Yes, all the kids were laughing while they were watching the new cartoon.
5. _____ ?
No, Charles and Thomas weren't fighting each other in the classroom.
6. _____ ?
Mrs. Collins was preparing dinner when the guests arrived at the cottage.
7. _____ ?
Eric was going to the new shopping centre when he bumped into his primary school teacher.
8. _____ ?
Helen and Anna were sitting on the bench when the robbers entered the bank.

ANSWER KEY

A) Fill in the blanks with **was** or **were** to complete the sentences below.

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|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. was | 5. were | 9. was |
| 2. Were | 6. was | 10. was |
| 3. was | 7. were | |
| 4. were | 8. was | |

B) Fill in the blanks with **was**, **wasn't**, **were** or **weren't** to complete the sentences below.

- | | | |
|------------|------------|-----------|
| 1. was | 5. weren't | 9. wasn't |
| 2. wasn't | 6. was | 10. were |
| 3. weren't | 7. were | |
| 4. was | 8. was | |

C) Answer the questions about yourself.

Your own answers

D) Rewrite the sentences with the subjects in brackets.

1. The boys were swimming in the river when they saw a small turtle under the water.
2. I wasn't doing anything when Mrs. Hall came into the classroom.
3. Jason was building a kennel for his dog, Oscar at about 9 a.m.
4. Two friends were fishing in the lake when a frightening storm started yesterday.
5. My mum was walking past the police station when a car crashed into a lorry.
6. Mr. Parker was walking to work because there was a problem with his car.
7. George wasn't playing football when I came because it was raining heavily.
8. The girls were skipping rope when the bell rang.
9. Mrs. Cox was having a barbeque when suddenly a fire started in the garden.
10. When the earthquake happened, the kids were sleeping in their beds.

E) Read the answers and write questions to the underlined words.

1. Where were the teachers playing table tennis?
2. Who were you talking to a few minutes ago?
3. What was Karen watching when she fell asleep on the sofa last night?
4. Were all the kids laughing while they were watching the new cartoon?
5. Were Charles and Thomas fighting each other in the classroom?
6. What was Mrs. Collins doing when the guests arrived at the cottage.
7. Where was Eric going when he bumped into his primary school teacher.
8. Who were sitting on the bench when the robbers entered the bank.