

### Past Simple vs. Past Continuous:

Exercise 1: Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the past simple or past continuous tense.

1. While I \_\_\_\_\_ (watch) TV, the phone \_\_\_\_\_ (ring).
2. They \_\_\_\_\_ (play) basketball when it \_\_\_\_\_ (start) raining.
3. Last night, she \_\_\_\_\_ (cook) dinner while he \_\_\_\_\_ (read) a book.
4. When I \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) at the party, everyone \_\_\_\_\_ (dance) on the dance floor.
5. We \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a picnic in the park when the sun \_\_\_\_\_ (shine) brightly.
6. She \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) to the store while it \_\_\_\_\_ (rain).
7. While they \_\_\_\_\_ (study), the power suddenly \_\_\_\_\_ (go) out.
8. He \_\_\_\_\_ (listen) to music while he \_\_\_\_\_ (do) his homework.

Exercise 2: Rewrite the sentences, changing the underlined verbs to the past simple or past continuous tense.

1. I am reading a book. - I \_\_\_\_\_ a book when...
2. They were playing outside. - They \_\_\_\_\_ outside when...
3. He is cooking dinner. - He \_\_\_\_\_ dinner when...
4. The kids were running in the park. - The kids \_\_\_\_\_ in the park when...
5. She is watching a movie. - She \_\_\_\_\_ a movie when...
6. We were studying for the test. - We \_\_\_\_\_ for the test when...
7. The sun is shining brightly. - The sun \_\_\_\_\_ brightly when...
8. They were talking on the phone. - They \_\_\_\_\_ on the phone when...

### Additional Relevant Exercises:

Exercise 3: Fill in the blanks with the appropriate verb form (infinitive, past simple, or past continuous) in the given context.

1. She \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) breakfast every morning.
2. They \_\_\_\_\_ (play) tennis every Sunday.
3. Yesterday, he \_\_\_\_\_ (work) on his project all day.
4. While I \_\_\_\_\_ (study), my sister \_\_\_\_\_ (watch) TV.
5. The baby \_\_\_\_\_ (cry) all night.

Exercise 4: Choose the correct verb tense (past simple or past continuous) for each sentence.

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ (eat / was eating) lunch at 12 PM yesterday.
2. While she \_\_\_\_\_ (cooked / was cooking) dinner, the phone rang.
3. They \_\_\_\_\_ (visited / were visiting) their grandparents last weekend.
4. The kids \_\_\_\_\_ (played / were playing) outside when it started raining.
5. He \_\_\_\_\_ (bought / was buying) a new car last month.

Exercise 5: Write a short story using both past simple and past continuous tenses, describing a memorable event or a day in your life.

## Riposta

Exercise 1:

1. was watching, rang
2. were playing, started
3. was cooking, was reading
4. arrived, were dancing
5. had, was shining
6. was walking, was raining
7. were studying, went
8. was listening, was doing

Exercise 2:

1. I was reading a book when...
2. They were playing outside when...
3. He was cooking dinner when...
4. The kids were running in the park when...
5. She was watching a movie when...
6. We were studying for the test when...
7. The sun was shining brightly when...
8. They were talking on the phone when...

### **Additional Relevant Exercises:**

Exercise 3:

1. eats
2. play
3. worked
4. was studying, was watching
5. cried

Exercise 4:

1. ate
2. was cooking
3. visited
4. were playing
5. bought