

Past simple and past continuous

1 Write the past simple form of these regular and irregular verbs.

- 1 cry
- 2 travel
- 3 send
- 4 enjoy
- 5 stop
- 6 break
- 7 fall

cried
traveled
sent
enjoyed
stopped
broke
fell

- 8 chat
- 9 happen
- 10 say
- 11 know
- 12 try
- 13 cut
- 14 turn

chatted
happened
said
knew
tried
cut
turned

2 Complete the sentences with the past simple form of the verbs in Exercise 1.

- 1 Last summer, my friend and I traveled around the south of France. We really enjoyed ourselves.
- 2 Did you cry at the end of the film? I thought it was really sad.
- 3 Sarah is very angry. What did you say to her? You chatted to her yesterday.
- 4 I sent my grandmother an email yesterday with a photo but she didn't know how to open the attachment!
- 5 My mobile phone fell on the floor but the screen didn't break. That was lucky!
- 6 I didn't see the accident. It all happened very quickly.
- 7 My PC was making a strange noise so I stopped using it and turned it off.
- 8 We tried to open the box with a knife but my dad cut himself. There was blood everywhere!

3 Write questions with the past simple.

- 1 When / you / buy / that tablet / ?
When did you buy that tablet?
- 2 How much / your new computer / cost / ?
How much did your new computer cost?
- 3 What / you / do / after school yesterday / ?
What did you do after school yesterday?
- 4 Why / you / not / call me last night / ?
Why did you not call me last night?
- 5 Where / Dad / save / the photos / on the computer / ?
Where did Dad save the photos on the computer?
- 6 Which files / you / delete / ?
Which files did you delete?
- 7 How many copies / Gary / print / yesterday / ?
How many copies did Gary print yesterday?
- 8 Which company / Steve Jobs / help to start / ?
Which company did Steve Jobs help to start?

4 Write the -ing form of the verbs.

- 1 attach
- 2 tie
- 3 run
- 4 save
- 5 give
- 6 get
- 7 delete

attaching
tying
running
saving
giving
getting
deleting

- 8 change
- 9 upload
- 10 think
- 11 win
- 12 spot
- 13 serve
- 14 realise

changing
uploading
thinking
winning
spotting
serving
realising

5 Complete the sentences with the past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I ~~was making~~ (make) my dinner at 8 o'clock last night.
- 2 Joe and Sam ~~were using~~ (use) the wrong program in IT yesterday.
- 3 Who was that guy you ~~were dancing~~ (dance) with at the party?
- 4 Paula ~~was coming~~ (come) home from school when she saw an accident.
- 5 In 1999 my father ~~was living~~ (live) in Dublin. That's where he met my mother.
- 6 He ~~was opening~~ (open) the box when he cut his finger.
- 7 This time last week, we ~~were visiting~~ (visit) my grandmother.
- 8 I ~~was sitting~~ (sit) at the back of the classroom so I couldn't see the screen.
- 9 Andrew ~~was inserting~~ (insert) a photo into his document when the teacher stopped the class.
- 10 I ~~was starting~~ (start) to do my homework when my friend sent me a message.

6 Choose the correct options.

- 1 I ~~listened~~ / was listening to the radio ~~when I heard~~ / was hearing this fantastic song.
- 2 ~~When~~ the teacher ~~said~~ / was saying 'Stop!', I ~~still tried~~ / was still trying to finish the last question.
- 3 I feel really silly. ~~While I danced~~ / was dancing, I ~~tell~~ / was falling and ~~broke~~ / was breaking my elbow.
- 4 Tim ~~played~~ / was playing a computer game ~~when~~ his mum ~~called~~ / was calling him for lunch.
- 5 I ~~looked~~ / was looking for a file on my memory stick ~~when I noticed~~ / was noticing there was a virus.
- 6 Ron ~~found~~ / was finding a really interesting website about dance music ~~while he surfed~~ / was surfing the internet.
- 7 My mum ~~had~~ / was having breakfast near the computer ~~when she spilled~~ / was spilling her cup of coffee on the keyboard.
- 8 ~~When you saw~~ / were seeing me yesterday, I ~~didn't go~~ / wasn't going to school, I ~~went~~ / was going to the doctor's - I felt terrible.
- 9 How many pictures ~~did you take~~ / were you taking ~~while you travelled~~ / were travelling around Ireland?
- 10 Why ~~did you chat~~ / were you chatting to Philip ~~while I tried~~ / was trying to tell you something really important?

7 Complete the sentences with the past simple or the past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I ~~switched off~~ (switch off) the computer because it ~~was making~~ (make) a strange noise. →
- 2 My dad ~~was listening~~ (listen) to classical music when I ~~arrived~~ (arrive) home from school. →
- 3 We ~~were playing~~ (play) video games when my mum ~~said~~ (say) 'Turn the volume down!' →
- 4 My cousin ~~met~~ (meet) his wife, Bianca, while he ~~was living~~ (live) in Italy. →
- 5 My little sister ~~was drawing~~ (draw) a picture while I ~~was studying~~ (study) for my French exam. →
- 6 While they ~~were trying~~ (try) to fix the computer, all the lights ~~went out~~ (go out). →
- 7 When we ~~left~~ (leave) school yesterday, it ~~was pouring~~ (pour) with rain. →
- 8 When you ~~saw~~ (see) Paul, ~~was~~ he ~~wearing~~ (wear) a black jacket? →
- 9 I ~~was trying~~ (try) to log on when the WiFi ~~stopped~~ (stop) working. →
- 10 While Dad ~~was printing~~ (print) an article, the printer ~~ran out~~ (run out) of paper. →

8 Complete the story with the correct past tense form of the verbs in brackets.

Sometimes I hate computers! Once, when I was trying (try) to do my English homework on my laptop, the battery ran out (run out). I was lying (lie) on my bed and I was listening to music on Spotify. It helps me to concentrate. I was also chatting (chat) to my friend Daniel on Facebook. OK, so I wasn't ^{concentrating} (not concentrate) very hard on my homework and I forgot (forget) to plug in my laptop! I didn't notice that the battery was getting low. I was just finishing the essay when the screen went (go) black. I lost (lose) everything. I screamed (scream) in frustration. My dad came (come) running into my bedroom. I was almost crying (cry) so he gave (give) me his laptop. I was trying (try) to remember everything in my essay - it was (be) quite difficult especially because Daniel was sending me lots of funny videos. Anyway, while I was watching one, the WiFi stopped working. In the end it was probably better because I managed (manage) to finish the essay.