

Past continuous/Past simple

Test trouvé sur <http://www.anglaisfacile.com> - le site pour apprendre l'anglais (test n°5701)

- **The previous action is interrupted by another previous action.**

.....

Examine the first situation :

Yesterday, Lisa and Luke played tennis.

They began at 3.00 p.m

They finished at 5.00 p.m

- So, at 4.00, they were playing tennis.

- They were playing => they were *in the middle* of playing.
- (I, he, she, it + WAS)
or (we, you, they + WERE) + Ving
 - => PAST CONTINUOUS

Examine the second situation :

Lisa and Luke were playing tennis (= they were in the middle of playing.)

4.15 : Jim arrived !

Jim arrived

=> PAST SIMPLE

(preterit)

Conclusion :

- We often use the past simple (preterit) and the past continuous *together* to say that ...

something happened in the middle of something else.

Other examples :

-

It was raining **when** we *went* out.

He *phoned* **while** we were having dinner.

- **Test : choose the past simple or the past continuous according to the meaning of the sentences.**
- **No contractions in questions. 9.**

Questions:

1. At 8 o'clock yesterday evening, I (have) _____ dinner...
 2. Matt (phone) _____ while we were watching a match on television.
 3. He (want) _____ to tell me that he would better go to the cinema.
 4. While we were all watching television, he (try) _____ to do his maths exercise.
 5. I (explain) _____ the exercise to him when Liverpool scored a splendid goal.
 6. I (not see) _____ it because I was on the phone in the hall.
 7. ' What (you / do) _____ when they scored ? ' my father asked.
 8. ' I (not / watch) _____ ! '
 9. ' Why (you / not / watch) _____ ? '
 10. ' Because Matt (want) _____ help. '
-

REPONSES :

- 1) was having
- 2) phoned
- 3) wanted
- 4) was trying
- 5) was explaining

- 6) did not see
 - 7) were you doing
 - 8) was not watching
 - 9) were you not watching
 - 10) wanted
-

Test trouvé sur <http://www.anglaisfacile.com> - le site pour apprendre l'anglais (test n°5701) -
Copyright www.anglaisfacile.com - All rights reserved - [Reproduction et traduction interdites sur tout support.](#)