

## Past Simple and Past Continuous

Choose the past simple or past continuous:

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ (sleep) when the telephone  
\_\_\_\_\_ (ring).
2. We \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) dinner at 8pm last night.
3. Yesterday I \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the post office,  
\_\_\_\_\_ (buy) some fruit at the supermarket and  
\_\_\_\_\_ (read) a book in the park in the afternoon.
4. We \_\_\_\_\_ (watch) TV when we  
\_\_\_\_\_ (hear) a loud noise.
5. Julie \_\_\_\_\_ (be) in the garden when Laurence  
\_\_\_\_\_ (arrive).
6. A: What \_\_\_\_\_ (you / do) at 3pm yesterday?  
B: I \_\_\_\_\_ (clean) my house.
7. Last year I \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) Paris and Rome.
8. They \_\_\_\_\_ (have) dinner when the police  
\_\_\_\_\_ (come) to the door.
9. He \_\_\_\_\_ (work) in the garden when he  
\_\_\_\_\_ (find) the money.
10. Laura \_\_\_\_\_ (study) at 11pm last night.
11. I \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) along the road when I  
\_\_\_\_\_ (meet) an old friend.
12. It \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a beautiful day. The birds  
\_\_\_\_\_ (sing) and the sun  
\_\_\_\_\_ (shine).
13. My old flatmate \_\_\_\_\_ (be) so annoying! She  
\_\_\_\_\_ (always / leave) dirty plates everywhere.
14. When I \_\_\_\_\_ (call) Julie, she  
\_\_\_\_\_ (work).

15. Why \_\_\_\_\_ (you / cry) when I  
\_\_\_\_\_ (arrive)?
16. When he \_\_\_\_\_ (get) home, we started to eat dinner.
17. At 10am yesterday I \_\_\_\_\_ (sit) on a bus.
18. What \_\_\_\_\_ (you / do) when she  
\_\_\_\_\_ (call)?
19. I \_\_\_\_\_ (not / sleep) when he  
\_\_\_\_\_ (arrive), I \_\_\_\_\_  
(study)!
20. Mr Black \_\_\_\_\_ (not / work) in the garden at 10pm  
last night.

Answers:

1. He was sleeping when the telephone rang.
2. We were eating dinner at 8pm last night.
3. Yesterday I went to the post office, bought some fruit at the supermarket and read a book in the park in the afternoon.
4. We were watching TV when we heard a loud noise.
5. Julie was in the garden when Laurence arrived.
6. A: What were you doing at 3pm yesterday?  
B: I was cleaning my house.
7. Last year I visited Paris and Rome.
8. They were having dinner when the police arrived.
9. He was working in the garden when he found the money.
10. Laura was studying at 11pm last night.
11. I was walking along the road when I met an old friend.
12. It was a beautiful day. The birds were singing and the sun was shining.
13. My old flatmate was so annoying! She was always leaving dirty plates everywhere.
14. When I called Julie, she was working.
15. Why were you crying when I arrived?
16. When he arrived, we started to eat dinner.
17. At 10am yesterday I was sitting on a bus.
18. What were you doing when she called?
19. I wasn't sleeping when he arrived, I was studying!
20. Mr Black wasn't working in the garden at 10pm last night.