Past Simple or the Past Continuous?

Choose the past simple or past continuous:

1. What ________________________ (you / do) when I ________________________ (call) you last night?
2. I ________________________ (sit) in a café when you ________________________ (call).
3. When you ________________________ (arrive) at the party, who ________________________ (be) there?
4. Susie ________________________ (watch) a film when she ________________________ (hear) the noise.
5. Yesterday I ________________________ (go) to the library, next I ________________________ (have) a swim, later I ________________________ (meet) Julie for a coffee.
6. We ________________________ (play) tennis when John ________________________ (hurt) his ankle.
7. What ________________________ (they / do) at 10pm last night? It ________________________ (be) really noisy.
8. He ________________________ (take) a shower when the telephone ________________________ (ring).
9. He ________________________ (be) in the shower when the telephone ________________________ (ring).
10. When I ________________________ (walk) into the room, everyone ________________________ (work).
11. It ________________________ (be) a day last September. The sun ________________________ (shine), the birds ________________________ (sing). I ________________________ (walk) along the street when I ________________________ (meet) an old friend.

12. He ________________________ (live) in Russia when the Revolution ________________________ (start).

13. When her train ________________________ (get) to the station, we ________________________ (wait) on the platform.

14. He ________________________ (be) so annoying! He ________________________ (always / leave) his things everywhere.

15. On holiday we ________________________ (visit) Rome, ________________________ (see) the Vatican, and ________________________ (spend) a few days at the beach.

16. Why ________________________ (you / stand) on a chair when I ________________________ (come) into the room?

17. They ________________________ (live) in Germany when they ________________________ (be) young.

18. At 7pm yesterday, we ________________________ (listen) to music.

19. When I ________________________ (leave) the house, it ________________________ (snow).

20. He ________________________ (work) in a bank when he ________________________ (meet) his wife.
Answers:

1. What **were you doing** when I **called** you last night?
2. I **was sitting** in a café when you **called**.
3. When you **arrived** at the party, who **was** there?
4. Susie **was watching** a film when she **heard** the noise.
5. Yesterday I **went** to the library, next I **had** a swim, later I **met** Julie for a coffee.
6. We **were playing** tennis when John **hurt** his ankle.
7. What **were they doing** at 10pm last night? It **was** really noisy.
8. He **was taking** a shower when the telephone **rang**.
9. He **was** in the shower when the telephone **rang**.
10. When I **walked** into the room, everyone **was working**.
11. It **was** a day last September. The sun **was shining**, the birds **were singing**. I **was walking** along the street when I **met** an old friend.
12. He **was living** in Russia when the Revolution **started**.
13. When her train **got** to the station, we **were waiting** on the platform.
14. He **was** so annoying! He **was always leaving** his things everywhere.
15. On holiday we **visited** Rome, **saw** the Vatican, and **spent** a few days at the beach.
16. Why **were you standing** on a chair when I **came** into the room?
17. They **lived** in Germany when they **were** young.
18. At 7pm yesterday, we **were listening** to music.
19. When I **left** the house, it **was snowing**.
20. He **was working** in a bank when he **met** his wife.