

Past Simple vs Past Progressive

Instructions: Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in parentheses: either Past Simple or Past Progressive.

1. I _____ (watch) TV when the phone _____ (ring).

2. She _____ (break) her leg while she _____ (ski).

3. We _____ (not go) out because it _____ (rain).

4. While I _____ (walk) to school, I _____ (see) a cat in a tree.

5. He _____ (sleep) when I _____ (arrive) home.

6. They _____ (play) football when it suddenly _____ (start) to snow.

7. What _____ you _____ (do) when the power _____ (go) out?

8. I _____ (clean) the kitchen while my brother _____ (do) his homework.

9. The students _____ (talk) loudly when the teacher _____ (come) in.

10. She _____ (drop) her phone while she _____ (run) to catch the bus.

11. While we _____ (have) dinner, the lights _____ (go) off.

12. I _____ (not listen) when the teacher _____ (ask) me a question.

13. When the fire alarm _____ (ring), everyone _____ (leave) the building.

14. He _____ (drive) too fast when he _____ (hit) the tree.

15. The baby _____ (cry) because it _____ (be) hungry.

16. As I _____ (read) the book, I _____ (fall) asleep.

17. When I _____ (call) her, she _____ (not answer).

18. They _____ (ride) their bikes when the storm _____ (begin).

19. I _____ (lose) my keys while I _____ (run) in the park.

20. While Tom _____ (cook), Sarah _____ (set) the table.

21. The dog _____ (bark) loudly when the mailman _____ (arrive).

22. I _____ (find) a wallet while I _____ (walk) to work.

23. We _____ (study) for the test when the internet _____ (stop) working.

24. She _____ (take) a shower when the phone _____ (ring).

25. He _____ (not see) the car because he _____ (text) on his phone.

Past Simple vs Past Progressive – With Answers

1. I was watching TV when the phone rang.
2. She broke her leg while she was skiing.
3. We did not go out because it was raining.
4. While I was walking to school, I saw a cat in a tree.
5. He was sleeping when I arrived home.
6. They were playing football when it suddenly started to snow.
7. What were you doing when the power went out?
8. I was cleaning the kitchen while my brother was doing his homework.
9. The students were talking loudly when the teacher came in.
10. She dropped her phone while she was running to catch the bus.
11. While we were having dinner, the lights went off.
12. I was not listening when the teacher asked me a question.
13. When the fire alarm rang, everyone left the building.
14. He was driving too fast when he hit the tree.

15. The baby was crying because it was hungry.

16. As I was reading the book, I fell asleep.

17. When I called her, she did not answer.

18. They were riding their bikes when the storm began.

19. I lost my keys while I was running in the park.

20. While Tom was cooking, Sarah was setting the table.

21. The dog was barking loudly when the mailman arrived.

22. I found a wallet while I was walking to work.

23. We were studying for the test when the internet stopped working.

24. She was taking a shower when the phone rang.

25. He did not see the car because he was texting on his phone.