

Past Continuous and Past Simple

1 Choose the correct option.

- 1 Julia was reading a book when someone *knocked / was knocking* at the door.
- 2 When I *was doing / did* my homework, the cat jumped on my computer.
- 3 You *weren't / wasn't* watching the dinner and now it's burnt.
- 4 Katy and Carla *was / were* talking when the teacher asked them a question.
- 5 Was Oliver *sitting / siting* in his bedroom while we were watching TV?
- 6 My neighbour was *playing / played* loud music all night.

2 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use the Past Simple or Past Continuous.

I got up early yesterday and at 7 o'clock I ¹ _____ (go) for a run in the park. It was a beautiful day and I ² _____ (not think) about much when I ³ _____ (see) a cat in a tree. Another runner saw it too and we tried to help it. Unfortunately, while my new running friend ⁴ _____ (climb) the tree, the cat ⁵ _____ (try) to climb further up! We weren't successful, so we ⁶ _____ (call) the firefighters to rescue the cat.

3 Write sentences about what you and your family did or were doing at the following times. Use the Past Simple and Past Continuous.

- last weekend
- 7 o'clock this morning
- 8 o'clock last night
- 11 o'clock yesterday morning
- on your last holiday
- on your last birthday

Answer key

1

- 1 knocked
- 2 was doing
- 3 weren't
- 4 were
- 5 sitting
- 6 playing

2

- 1 went
- 2 wasn't thinking
- 3 saw
- 4 was climbing
- 5 was trying/tried
- 6 called

3

Model answers

- Last weekend I went to the cinema with my friends.
- My mum was driving to work at 7 o'clock this morning.
- We were watching TV at 8 o'clock last night.
- I was doing my homework at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon.
- My sister was doing an exam yesterday morning at 11 o'clock.
- On my last holiday I went to Barcelona. It was sunny and hot.
- For my last birthday, I had all of my friends over for a party. We ate pizza and danced.