

# PAST SIMPLE & PAST CONTINUOUS

B1 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Question Practice | 20-30 minutes

Describe past events and what was happening around them.

## 1. GET STARTED

Take turns asking and answering. Give details and ask a follow-up. You can invent personal details.

**A:** Why **did you leave** the concert early?

**B:** I **was standing** near the back when I **started** feeling ill.

**A:** Oh, no. **Did** someone **help** you get home?

## 2. EVENTS AND BACKGROUND

1. What **were you doing** at eight last night? Where were you?
2. What **did you do** after you finished work or study yesterday?
3. **Were you listening** to anything on your last journey? What was it?
4. When **did** you last **get** an unexpected call? What **were you doing**?
5. **Did** something funny **happen** last week? What was happening at the time?
6. What **was** everyone **doing** when you arrived at a recent event?

**Keep talking:** What happened next? / What were you doing then? / How did you feel?

## 3. A STORY TO SHARE

Choose a real or invented event. Give the background before describing what happened.

7. What **were you doing** when you first heard some good news?
8. What **happened** during a journey that **didn't go** as planned?
9. **Were** other people **waiting** when you arrived somewhere late? Explain.
10. When **did** you last **lose** something? What **were you doing** before that?

## 4. AN INTERRUPTED PLAN

Tell a story about a plan interrupted by a surprise. Set the scene, then explain the event.

Your partner asks for details and what happened next. Swap roles.

**Example:** We **were having** a picnic when it **started** raining.

Finish by explaining what you did instead.

**Answer help:** I was ... when ... / While we were ..., ... happened.

**Remember:** Use continuous for activity in progress and simple for the main events.