

Past simple and past continuous: exercise 1

Affirmative

Choose the correct tense. _____

As I *came* / *was coming* to the station, a car *stopped* / *was stopping* behind me. A man wearing sunglasses *got* / *was getting* out of the car and *said* / *was saying*: "Mike, what are you doing here?"

My grandma *never watched* / *was never watching* TV. But she *read* / *was reading* books.

When I *started* / *was starting* work at 6 o'clock this morning, the sun *shone* / *was shining*.

My mum *got* / *was getting* up and *switched* / *was switching* off the light.

When I *finished* / *was finishing* my homework, I *cooked* / *was cooking* dinner for my sister.

While we *listened* / *were listening* to the news, the telephone *rang* / *was ringing*. Kate *stood* / *was standing* up and *answered* / *was answering* it.

As I *drove* / *was driving* to work last Friday, a car *crashed* / *was crashing* in front of me.

I *stepped* / *was stepping* on the brakes.

As Betty *left* / *was leaving* her house on the way to work, she *left* / *was leaving* the door open.

When she *came* / *was coming* back home in the evening, a dog *sat* / *was sitting* in the middle of the living room.

Yesterday Carol *wrote* / *was writing* emails from 10 to 11 and then from 5 to 7 again.

We arrived in Cannes at 2.30. The sun *shone* / *was shining*, people *sunbathed* / *were sunbathing* on the beach and big yachts *sailed* / *were sailing* near the harbour. We parked our car and *went* / *were going* to the beach.

Key with answers: www.e-grammar.org/download/past-simple-continuous-exercise-1.pdf