

1

Past Progressive Review

What **were you doing** when the earthquake struck?



I **was having** lunch at home.

Language Focus

Use the **past progressive** to talk about events that were happening at a particular moment in the past. Form the past progressive with **was / were + verb + ing**.

*I / he / she **was watching** a movie about Pompeii.*

*We / you / they **were watching** a play in the theater.*

Yes/No questions are formed with **was / were + verb + ing**.

Were you feeling all right yesterday afternoon? *Yes, I was. / No, I wasn't.*

Form "Wh" questions by putting **where, what, why**, etc., before **was / were + verb + ing**.

What were you doing yesterday at two o'clock?

1 Circle the correct verb forms.

It was Monday morning, and we were (1) listening / listened to a story in our ancient history class. "And then," said Ms. Kremer, who (2) *were / was* standing in front of the long window, "Vesuvius erupted, and the people of the beautiful city of" She stopped and turned her head. "Ms. Kremer," said Martyn, "is that the fire alarm?" It was. We left our bags in the room and followed our teacher to the emergency exit. Smoke was (3) *came / coming* up the hallway. Outside, we could see what (4) *was / were* happening. The auditorium was on fire! Teachers (5) *were / was* running around. The firefighters arrived really quickly and worked hard. They couldn't save the auditorium, but the most important thing was that everyone was safe. For the next few days, it was all we could talk about. "What were you doing when you (6) *heard / hearing* the alarm?" we asked, excited to tell our stories again, all thoughts of Vesuvius and the people of Pompeii forgotten.

2 Complete the sentences with a verb from the box in the past progressive form.

listen ~~sit~~ do rise shout tell

Judith Tom said there was a fire at your school. What happened?

Daniella Yes, it was incredible! We (1) were sitting in Ms. Kremer's class ...

Judith What (2) _____ you _____?

Daniella We (3) _____ to the story of Vesuvius. Ms. Kremer

(4) _____ us about the famous volcano when the fire alarm went off!

Judith What happened next?

Daniella We went outside with all the other students and stood in our groups. All the teachers were there. They (5) _____, "Move away from the building quickly! Move away, please!" The smoke (6) _____ above the auditorium.

3 Correct the sentences.

1 My parents were drove when they saw the accident.

My parents were driving when they saw the accident.

2 When the storm came, I am walking through the park.

3 What was you doing last night at six o'clock?

4 When the lights went out, I were doing my homework.

5 I was watch a movie when the fire started.

6 We was having dinner when we heard the news.

4 Answer the questions.

1 What were you doing at 9 o'clock this morning? _____

2 What were you doing yesterday morning at 10 o'clock? _____

3 What were you doing two days ago at 4 p.m.? _____

4 What were you doing a week ago at 7 o'clock in the evening? _____

5 What were you doing four days ago at lunchtime? _____

Two Simultaneous Actions with *While*



While I was reading a book, Jack was listening to music.

Language Focus

Words such as **and** and **but** are **conjunctions**. They connect words, phrases, and parts of a sentence. **While** is a conjunction. Use it to talk about two actions happening simultaneously (which means “at the same time”).

While I was chatting with my friend, my dog was running after a ball.

1 Correct the sentences.

1 While I were doing my homework, my brothers were watching a movie.

While I was doing my homework, my brothers were watching a movie.

2 While my father was writing an email, my sister is talking on the phone.

3 While I play a computer game, my mother was making a cup of tea.

4 While was Jane swimming, we were playing volleyball on the beach.

5 While I am studying for my science test, my friends were at the movies.

6 While Marco and Otto are watching the soccer game, I was reading a book.

2 Complete the sentences with a verb from the box in the past progressive form.

talk drink cut play read sleep

- 1 While I was reading about volcanoes, Mom was painting.
- 2 While Mom was doing that, our cat _____ soundly under a tree.
- 3 While the cat was doing that, my brother and sister _____ soccer.
- 4 While my brother and sister were doing that, Grandma _____ a cup of coffee.
- 5 While Grandma was doing that, Grandpa _____ to Uncle Caspar.
- 6 While Grandpa was doing that, Dad _____ the grass.

3 Make sentences using the information in the table.

| | | | | |
|-------|----------------|---------------------|------------|------------------------|
| While | I | watch a movie | my brother | sleep |
| | my friends | play basketball | my grandma | read a book |
| | my teacher | send a text message | I | wash the dishes |
| | my sister | play computer games | my friend | drink a glass of water |
| | my mom and dad | sit in the yard | my dog | play the guitar |
| | my cousin | eat a sandwich | my grandpa | run in the yard |

- 1 While I was playing basketball, my dog was running in the yard.
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____

4 Write sentences with *while* using the following verbs: *play, watch, do, eat, study, read*.

- 1 While I was reading about a flood, my friend was reading about an avalanche.
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____

Reading: A Story

1 Read the story. Answer the questions.

The Day the **MOUNTAIN EXPLODED**

It began as a beautiful day. The sun was shining, and the sky was blue. Everything was quiet and peaceful in the old town where Katerina lived with her family. Their town was popular with visitors, who came to see its temples and theaters, its columns and fountains, all of which were almost 2,000 years old. Tourists also enjoyed the sight of the horses and carts, which were still used in the center of the town.

Katerina came from a family of merchants who sold fruit and vegetables in the market in the main square. The house the family lived in was small for eight people, but it was clean, and its windows, which faced the street, were always filled with vases of beautiful flowers. It was a simple life but a good one.

The people of the town couldn't remember the last eruption. The volcano, which rose above the town to the east, was not something that most people thought about. However, in the days before the disaster, one old man was thinking about it. "It's going to explode," said Constantine, who spent his days sitting on the steps of the theater in the main square. While the people of the town were buying food, he was pointing to the top of the volcano, from which smoke was rising. "Look," he said. "It's going to explode." The people were too busy with their lives to pay attention to what Constantine was saying. When the volcano erupted two days later, ash and lava covered everything and everyone in the town—everyone, that is, except for Katerina and her family, the only people who listened to Constantine's warning. While the ash was falling on the town, they were watching from a town in the mountains many, many miles away, sad to see what was happening but glad to be safe.



- 1 How old were the temples and theaters in the town?
- 2 What did Katerina's family sell?
- 3 Where did Katerina's family sell their produce?
- 4 How many people were there in Katerina's family?
- 5 Who warned the people about the volcano?
- 6 Who listened to the warning about the volcano?

almost 2,000 years old

Speaking 1

1 Look at the photos. Play the guessing game.

I was at home. I was reading my book. It was raining heavily outside. Suddenly, water came into the kitchen!

There was a flood!



earthquake



volcano eruption



tornado



tsunami



flood



fire

2 Choose a natural disaster from Activity 1. Imagine it happened in your town. Write answers. Then practice.

- 1 When was it? _____
- 2 Where were you? _____
- 3 What were you doing? _____
- 4 Who was with you? _____
- 5 What happened? _____
- 6 What did you do? _____

3 Work with a friend. Tell your stories. Use your answers from Activity 2.

Help with Speaking

When you tell a story, you don't need to talk about everything that happened. Talk about the most important things, and let your friend listen to you. Give your friend time to imagine the events in your story.

It was a Saturday morning. I was in the backyard. I was playing soccer with my brother. Suddenly, we smelled smoke. We looked up and saw that the smoke was coming from the volcano ...

