I was watching TV

cover one column, say the other two



1 Read the table. Cover the ✗ and ? columns and say them.

✋ COVER A COLUMN

	✓	✗	?
I	I **was** watching TV.	I **wasn't** watching TV.	**Was** I watching TV?
you	You **were** watching TV.	You **weren't** watching TV.	**Were** you watching TV?
he / she / it	She **was** watching TV.	She **wasn't** watching TV.	**Was** she watching TV?
we	We **were** watching TV.	We **weren't** watching TV.	**Were** we watching TV?
they	They **were** watching TV.	They **weren't** watching TV.	**Were** they watching TV?

2 Short answers. Cover the right side and answer.

✋ COVER AND REMEMBER

QUESTION	YES / NO
1 Were you sleeping when I called?	Yes, I **was**. / No, I **wasn't**.
2 Was your dad cooking at 7 p.m.?	Yes, he **was**. / No, he **wasn't**.
3 Were they playing soccer?	Yes, they **were**. / No, they **weren't**.
4 What were you doing at 8 last night?	I **was doing** my homework.

REMEMBER

⏳ **Past Continuous** = a long action. It was in progress: I **was taking** a shower...

⚡ **Past Simple** = a short action. It happened and stopped the long one: ...when the phone **rang**.

We don't say ~~I was know~~ or ~~I was like it~~: **know**, **like**, **want** don't take -ing.

8 p.m. last night

look, write, cover, ask

1 What were they doing at 8 p.m. last night? Write the sentences. ✗ = no.

Then cover your sentences, look at the pictures and say them again.



Kuba / take a shower

Kuba _____ a shower.



my parents / watch TV

My parents _____ TV.



Ola / walk her dog

Ola _____ her dog.



I / do my homework

I _____ my homework.



the twins / play a video game

The twins _____ a video game.



we / have dinner

We _____ dinner.



my grandpa / sleep ✗

My grandpa _____ yet.



Zosia / listen to music ✗

Zosia _____ to music.



Mr. Nowak / talk on the phone

Mr. Nowak _____ on the phone.

2 Look, cover, ask. Cover your sentences. Ask and answer about the pictures.

✋ COVER AND REMEMBER

QUESTION	ANSWER
1 What was Kuba doing at 8 p.m.?	He **was taking** a shower.
2 Were your parents cooking?	No, they **weren't**. They were watching TV.
3 Was Ola walking her dog?	Yes, she **was**.
4 Was your grandpa sleeping?	No, he **wasn't**. He was reading.

Sorry, I was busy!

read, act it out, make excuses



1 Igor called Julka last night. Complete the dialogue with the verbs in brackets.

Long action: was / were + -ing. Short action: Past Simple.

Igor	Hey, I called you last night. What were you doing?
Julka	Sorry! I _____ (take) a shower when you _____ (call).
Igor	No problem. Did you see my message?
Julka	Yes, but I _____ (help) my mom in the kitchen, so I _____ (not answer).
Igor	And at nine? I _____ (text) you again.
Julka	At nine I _____ (walk) my dog. Then my phone _____ (die)! 😅
Igor	Ha ha! OK, good excuse. And guess what I _____ (do) at nine?
Julka	What?
Igor	I _____ (wait) for you to call me back!

2 Your friend called. Make an excuse. Cover the right side and make them from memory.

✋ COVER AND REMEMBER

WHAT WERE YOU DOING?	YOUR EXCUSE
1 🐶 walk my dog	Sorry! I **was walking** my dog when you called.
2 🍝 have dinner	Sorry! I _____ when you called.
3 ⚽ play soccer	Sorry! I _____ when you called.
4 🎸 practice the guitar	Sorry! I _____ when you called.
5 🧹 clean my room	Sorry! I _____ when you called.
6 😴 sleep	Sorry! I _____ when you called.

Same words, different story

what happened first?



REMEMBER

⏳ **was / were + -ing** = it was already in progress. ⚡ **Past Simple** = it happened at that moment, or after.

while + the long action: **While I was walking home**, it started to rain. **when** + the short action: I was reading **when the phone rang**.

1 Read the sentences. Match them with the right meaning.

✋ COVER THE MEANINGS

Then cover the right side. Read a sentence and explain it in your own words.

SENTENCE

1	When Mom came home, I **was cleaning** my room.	☐
2	When Mom came home, I **cleaned** my room.	☐
3	When the teacher came in, we **were talking**.	☐
4	When the teacher came in, we **stopped** talking.	☐
5	When the bell rang, Ola **was writing** the last answer.	☐
6	When the bell rang, Ola **gave** her test to the teacher.	☐
7	**While** I **was watching** the movie, I fell asleep.	☐
8	I **watched** the movie, and then I fell asleep.	☐

MEANING

A	I didn't see the end of the movie.
B	Ola didn't finish the test in time.
C	I started cleaning before Mom came home.
D	I saw the whole movie.
E	We were quiet after the teacher came in.
F	Mom came home, and then I started cleaning.
G	We were in the middle of a conversation.
H	Ola finished, and then she turned in her test.

2 Your turn. Write two sentences about yesterday: one with when, one with while.

I was ...ing **when** ... . **While I was** ...ing, ...

Long and short

two actions, one sentence



1 Join the two actions. Complete the sentences. ⏳ = long action, ⚡ = short action.

✋ THEN COVER THE RIGHT SIDE

TWO ACTIONS	ONE SENTENCE
1 ⏳ I / do my homework ⚡ my friend / call	I _____ my homework when my friend _____.
2 ⏳ we / play basketball ⚡ Maks / hurt his knee	While we _____ basketball, Maks _____ his knee.
3 ⏳ Ola / cross the street ⚡ she / notice a wallet	Ola _____ a wallet while she _____ the street.
4 ⏳ Grandma / water the plants ⚡ she / find a frog	Grandma _____ the plants when she _____ a frog.
5 ⏳ I / sleep ⚡ my cat / jump on my face	I _____ when my cat _____ on my face! 🐱
6 ⏳ Mom / make pancakes ⚡ the smoke alarm / go off	While Mom _____ pancakes, the smoke alarm _____ off.

2 Past Simple or Past Continuous? Complete with the verbs in brackets.

1 I _____ (see) a huge spider while I _____ (clean) my room.

2 What _____ (you / do) at 8 o'clock last night?

3 She _____ (not listen) when the teacher _____ (explain) the homework.

4 Suddenly, the lights _____ (go) out, and everybody _____ (scream).

5 The two cars _____ (crash) because the drivers _____ (look) at their phones.

Find someone who was…

ask, answer, ask one more



1 **Write the questions. Then walk around and ask. Write a name and ask one more question!**

Were you sleeping at 7 a.m. today? Yes, I was. → write the name. What time did you get up? At 7:20. I was late!

Find someone who…	Question	Name	One more thing
😴 was sleeping at 7 a.m. today	Were you sleeping at 7 a.m. today?		
🍳 was having breakfast at 7:15 a.m.	_____		
🎧 was listening to music on the way home yesterday	_____		
📱 was using a phone at midnight	_____		
⚽ was doing sports at 5 p.m. yesterday	_____		
📺 was watching a series at 9 p.m. last night	_____		
🚌 was sitting on a bus at 7:30 this morning	_____		
📝 was doing homework at 10 p.m. last night	_____		

2 **Tell the class about two people.**

At 7 a.m. Kuba was sleeping. **He got up at** 7:20! **At midnight Ola was** … .

Ask and answer

match, cover, remember



1 Match the questions and the answers.

✋ COVER AND REMEMBER

Then cover the answers. Read a question and give your own answer. Swap!

QUESTIONS		ANSWERS	
1	What were you doing at 8 o'clock last night?	A	To the dentist. 😬
2	What were you doing when the lesson started?	B	I screamed and ran away!
3	Where were you going when I saw you yesterday?	C	My cousin. She was visiting us.
4	What happened while you were walking to school?	D	I was doing my homework.
5	Who were you talking to after school?	E	Kuba was making funny faces.
6	Why were you laughing in class?	F	Yes, I was! I missed the last goal.
7	Were you watching the game when the lights went out?	G	I found a lost puppy!
8	What did you do when you saw the spider?	H	I was looking for my pen.
9	How did you hurt your hand?	I	It was snowing and really cold.
10	What was the weather like when you left home?	J	I cut it while I was making a sandwich.

2 Write three questions for your partner. Ask and answer!

What were you doing when ...? **What happened while** ...? **Where were you going** ...?

A night to remember

read the story, then tell it from memory



1 Read the story. Put the verbs in the Past Simple or the Past Continuous.

THE THING IN THE DARK

Last August my family _____ (camp) near a lake. On the last night, we _____ (sit) around the fire, and Dad _____ (tell) a scary story. Suddenly, we _____ (hear) a loud noise in the trees. My little sister _____ (scream) and _____ (run) into the tent. While Mom _____ (look) for the flashlight, something big _____ (walk) out of the forest. It was a cow! 🐄 It _____ (eat) our bread when Dad finally _____ (notice) it. We all _____ (laugh) for an hour.

2 Cover the story. Answer the questions from memory.

✋ COVER AND REMEMBER

QUESTION	ANSWER
1 Where was the family camping?	They **were camping** near a lake.
2 What was Dad doing?	He **was telling** a scary story.
3 What did they hear?	They **heard** a loud noise in the trees.
4 What did the little sister do?	She **screamed** and **ran** into the tent.
5 What was the cow doing?	It **was eating** their bread.

3 Now tell the story to your partner. Start like this:

Last August, a family was camping near a lake. One night, while they were sitting around the fire, ...