

Simple past and past continuous tense: exercise

Complete the following sentences using appropriate simple past or past continuous forms.

Hints

To talk about a shorter action that happened in the middle of a longer action, we use the simple past. To talk about two longer actions that were progressing at the same time, we use the past continuous.

1. As I (open) my eyes, I (see) a strange sight.
2. While you (play) in the garden, I (work).
3. As I (walk) down the street, I Ann driving a Ferrari.
4. While they (work) in the backyard, someone (break) into the house.
5. When I was a child, we (live) in Singapore.
6. When I (sit) under the tree, an apple (fall) on my head.
7. She (look) at me as if she (know) me.

Answers

1. As I opened my eyes, I saw a strange sight.
2. While you were playing in the garden I was working.
3. As I was walking down the street, I saw Ann driving a Ferrari.
4. While they were working in the backyard, someone broke into the house.

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5. When I was a child, we lived in Singapore.
6. When I was sitting under the tree an apple fell on my head.
7. She looked at me as if she knew me.