

Vocabulary of Unit 1 (A Website Project)

Grade 8 (A + B)

Name: Date: / /2023

**Past Simple & Past Continuous**

**Objective:**

1. **To differentiate between Simple Past and Past Continuous.**
2. **To practice using Simple Past and Past Continuous.**

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|  | Past Simple | Past Continuous |
| What is it?  Form: | a verb tense used to talk about completed actions in the past.  I/ He/She/We **returned / left**  **Did** he **return / leave**? – **Yes, he did. / No, he didn’t**.  he **did not (didn’t) return / leave.** | A verb tense to talk about ongoing actions in the past.  It describes what were you doing at specific moments in the past.  I/ He/ She **was / We / They were watching.**  **Was** he/ **Were** they **watching**? **Yes, he was**. / **No, they weren’t**.  He **was not (wasn’t)**/ They **were not weren’t watching**. |
| USES:  1 | for an action which happened at a definite time in the past. The time is stated, already known or implied.  They spent their holidays in Switzerland last winter.  When did they go to  Switzerland?  Last winter. The time is stated.)  They had a great time.  (The time is already known.) | for an action which was in progress at a stated time in the past. We do not mention when the action started or finished.  At three o'clock  yesterday afternoon, they were sitting at an outdoor café. We do not know when they got to or when they left the café.) |
| 2 | for actions which happened immediately one after the other in the past.  First, he read the message. Then, he called his boss. | for an action which was in progress when another action interrupted it. We use the past continuous for the action in progress (longer action) and the past simple for the action which interrupted it (shorte[r action).  He was walking when he slipped on a banana skin. |
| 3 | for past habits or states which are now finished. In such cases we can also use the expression used to.  People (travelled /used to travel) by carriage in those days. | for two or more simultaneous past actions.  She was talking on the phone while he was drawing a picture. |
| 4 | to talk about the lives of people who are no longer alive.  Marilyn Monroe starred in a number of successful films. | to describe the atmosphere, the setting, etc. in the introduction to a story before we describe the main events.  Todd and Alex were walking through the forest.  The sun was shining and the birds were singing. |
|  | NOTE: The past simple is used with the following time expressions: yesterday, last night/week/ month / year/ Monday, etc., two days/weeks/ months, etc. ago, then, when, How long ago...?, in 1992/1845, etc. | NOTE: The past continuous is used with the following time expressions: when, while, as, all day/night/ morning, etc. |
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PAST SIMPLE, OR CONTINUOUS USE THE CORRECT VERB TENSE IN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES?

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| --- | --- |
| 1) I **(sit)** in a cafe when you **(call)** . |  |
| 2) When you (**arrive**) at the party, who (**be**) there? |  |
| 3) Susie (**watch**) a film when she  (**hear**) the noise. |  |
| 4) Yesterday I  (**go**) to the library, next I   (**have**) a swim, later I (**meet**) Julie for coffee. |  |
| 5) We (**play**) tennis when John (**hurt**) his ankle. |  |
| 6) What (**they/do**) at 10pm last night - it was really noisy? |  |
| 7) He (**take**) a shower when the telephone (ring). |  |
| 8) He (**be**) in the shower when the telephone (ring). |  |
| 9) When I (**walk**) into the room, everyone (work). |  |
| 10) It (**be**) a day last September. The sun (**shine**) and the birds  (**sing**) . I (**walk**) along the street when I (meet) an old friend. |  |
| 11) He  (**live**) in Russia when the Revolution**(start**). |  |
| 12) When her train (**get**) to the station, we  (**wait**) on the platform. |  |

**Coordinator signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**