5 Past continuous e past simple (Unità 15–16)

Past continuous

| Frasi                      | Affermativa                          | Negativa
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I/he/she/it was working</td>
<td></td>
<td>I/he/she/it wasn’t working</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you/we/they were working</td>
<td></td>
<td>you/we/they weren’t working</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domande</th>
<th></th>
<th>Risposte brevi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Was I/he/she/it working?</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, I was. / Yes, we were. ecc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Were you/we/they working?</td>
<td></td>
<td>No, he wasn’t. / No, they weren’t. ecc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Il past continuous si usa per esprimere azioni in corso di svolgimento in un tempo particolare del passato (I was driving to work at 8.30 this morning).

Il past continuous e il past simple si possono usare insieme per esprimere un’azione avvenuta nel passato mentre un’altra era in corso di svolgimento (I fell asleep while I was watching TV last night).

1 Completa le frasi con il past continuous dei verbi tra parentesi.

0 I __________ (have) breakfast at 7 o’clock this morning.
1 It __________ (rain) at 9 o’clock this morning.
2 I __________ (watch) TV at 8.30 last night.
3 We __________ (live) in Milan in 2008.
4 The school computers __________ (not work) this morning.
5 I was cold because I __________ (not wear) a coat.

2 Completa le frasi con il past continuous o il past simple dei verbi tra parentesi.

0 Bill Gates __________ (study) at Harvard University when he __________ (decide) to start his computer company.
1 The Titanic __________ (sail) to America when it __________ (hit) an iceberg.
2 JRR Tolkien __________ (write) The Lord of the Rings while he __________ (teach) at Oxford University.
3 Isaac Newton first __________ (start) to think about gravity when he __________ (sit) in a garden and an apple __________ (fall) on his head.

3 Scrivi le risposte brevi per i fatti menzionati nell’Esercizio 2. Aggiungi l’informazione corretta quando è necessario.

0 Was Bill Gates studying at Yale University when he decided to start his computer company?
   No, he wasn’t. He __________ (study) at Harvard University.
1 Was the Titanic sailing to the UK when it hit an iceberg?
   __________ (sail) to America when it __________ (hit) an iceberg.
2 Was JRR Tolkien teaching at Oxford University when he wrote The Lord of the Rings?
   __________ (teach) at Oxford University when he __________ (write) The Lord of the Rings.
3 Was Isaac Newton walking through a park when he first had the idea of gravity?
   __________ (walk) through a park when he __________ (start) to think about gravity.

4 Completa i dialoghi con la forma corretta del past continuous o del past simple dei verbi tra parentesi.

0 A I __________ (see) you this morning. Were you doing (you/do) some shopping?
   B Yes, I __________ (buy) a lovely new skirt and some cool trousers.
1 A How __________ (John/break) his arm?
   B He __________ (climb) a tree and he __________ (fall) out.
   A What __________ (he/do) in the tree?
   B He __________ (try) to rescue a cat!
2 A __________ (you/be) outside when it __________ (start) raining?
   B Yes. We __________ (play) football at the time. We __________ (get) completely wet.
3 A I __________ (see) you yesterday evening. You __________ (come) out of the library.
   B Oh yes. I __________ (need) to return some books.
4 A How __________ (you/meet) your girlfriend?
   B She __________ (work) in a cafe that I __________ (go) to. One day I __________ (ask) her out.
5 A Sorry I __________ (not email) you earlier, but my computer __________ (not work) properly.
   B That’s OK. __________ (you solve) the problem?
   A Yes, it __________ (be) something to do with the security settings.
6 A I __________ (see) Andy last night. He __________ (drive) his dad’s car.
   B Andy __________ (drive)? When __________ (he/pass) his driving test?
   A Last week, I think.