

# Inspector Clueless and Paws in... The Mystery of the Blue Diamond



Complete the passage with the verbs in brackets in the Past Simple or the Past Continuous.

One shiny morning, Inspector Clueless (1) **was having** (have) breakfast when suddenly his phone (2) **rang** (ring). He (3) **answered** (answer) the phone very annoyed because he always (4) **enjoyed** (enjoy) reading the newspaper while he (5) **was drinking** (drink) his first cup of tea. It (6) **was** (be) Lady Vain. She (7) **was crying** (cry) so loud that Inspector Clueless (8) **couldn't** (not can) understand her. Finally, Lady Vain (9) **stopped** (stop) crying and she (10) **told** (tell) Clueless about her misfortune.



Lady Vain



"In the middle of the night, someone (11) **emptied** (empty) my jewel box: Oh!, my blue diamond ring, my gold bracelets, my pearl necklaces, my diamond earrings... and... one of my dear pictures, too: My Van Gogh!", Lady Vain (12) **reported** (report) Clueless. "Nobody (13) **heard** (hear) the evil thieves because the family and the servants (14) **were sleeping** (sleep). Please, Inspector, help me!", (15) **begged** (beg) her.

Inspector Clueless and his smart assistant Paws (16) **started** (start) their investigation. First of all, they (17) **checked** (check) the alarm and the safe, they (18) **made** (make) some questions to the people in the house and they also (19) **searched** (search) for fingerprints and footprints with the help of their magnifying glasses. Unfortunately, Inspector Clueless (20) **didn't have** (not have) any clues. He was clueless! Suddenly, when Clueless (21) **was looking** (look) for some evidence, Paws (22) **got** (get) some clues: a torch, a red hair and a chewing gum... Elementary, Paws!, (23) **shouted** (shout) Clueless.

Inspector Clueless could find some evidence but he needs your help. How did the theft happen? How could Clueless solve the mystery? Here you are some words related to crime you can use to finish the story.

- weapon • victim • robber • suspect • security guard • punishment • solve •
- criminal • robbery • guards • arrest • witness • investigate •



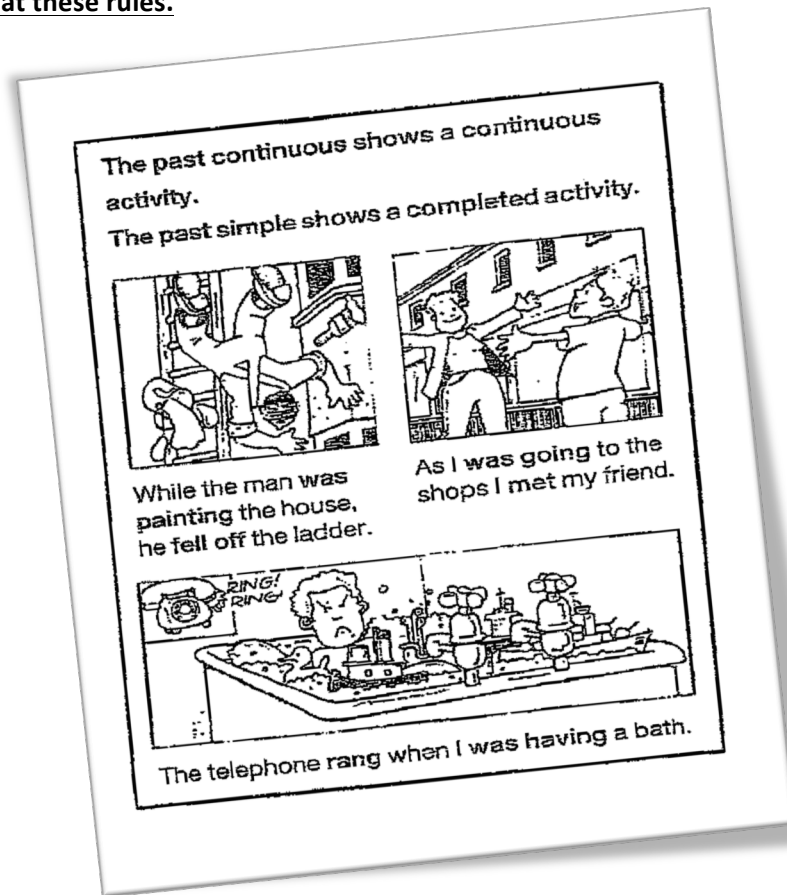
**3) Right or wrong. Correct if wrong.**

- a. I walked home yesterday after the party. **Right**
- b. I **walked** along the street when suddenly I heard footsteps behind me. Somebody **I was walking**  
**followed** me. I was frightened and I **was starting** to run. **Wrong**  
**was following** **started**
- c. It was warm, so I **was taking** off my coat. **Wrong**  
**took off**
- d. The film wasn't very good. I didn't enjoy it very much. **Right**
- e. Mozart wrote more than 600 pieces of music. **Right**
- f. I **was going** to the cinema 3 times last week. **Wrong**  
**went**
- g. I **cycled** home yesterday when suddenly a man stepped out into the road in front  
**was cycling**  
of me. I was going quite fast but luckily I **was managing** to stop in time and  
**managed**  
didn't hit him. **Wrong**
- h. We invited them to our party but they decided not to come. **Right**
- i. He **was being** 35 years old when he died. **Wrong**  
**was**
- j. I was enjoying the party but Chris **was wanting** to go home. **Wrong**  
**wanted**



#### 4) Making sentences using the Past Simple & the Past Continuous.

❖ Have a look at these rules.



❖ Join the parts of the sentences with *when* or *while* and the correct form of the past tense.

a. ...She/swim in the sea // she /lose one of her beach shoes. (While)

***She lost one of her beach shoes while she was swimming in the sea.***

b. I/do my homework ... // all the lights/go out. (when)

***I was doing my homework when all the lights went out.***

c. ...They /have dinner // the cat/eat the goldfish. (while)

***The cat ate the goldfish while they were having dinner.***

d. My brother/cycle quite fast ... // he/get a puncture. (when)

***My brother was cycling quite fast when he got a puncture.***

e. ...I/change some money // a robber/run into the bank. (while)

***A robber ran into the bank while I was changing some money.***

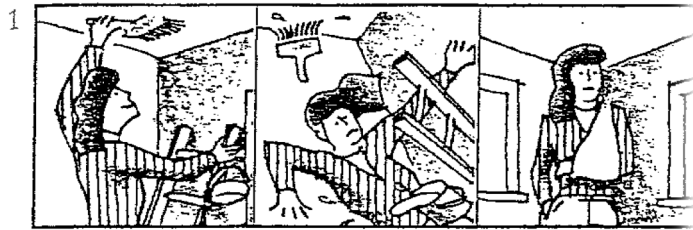
f. I /see Jackie & Terry... // I/come back from the airport. (when)

***I saw Jackie & Terry when I was coming back from the airport.***



# PAST SIMPLE & CONTINUOUS - EXTRA EXERCISES

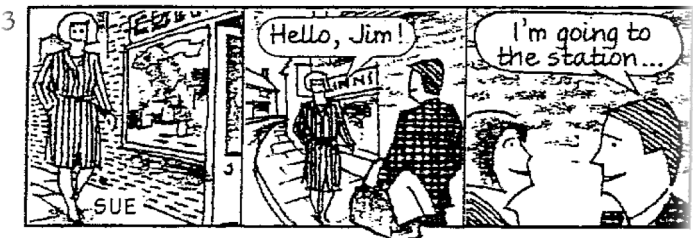
## 1) Look at the pictures and put the verbs in the correct form, past simple or past continuous.



1. Carol **broke** (break) her arm last week. It **happened** (happen) when she **was painting** (paint) her room. She **fell** (fall) off the ladder.



2. The train **arrived** (arrive) at the station and Paula **got** (get) off. Two friends of hers, John and Jenny, **were waiting** (wait) to meet her.



3. Yesterday Sue **was walking** (walk) along the road when she **met** (meet) Jim. He **was going** (go) to the station to catch a train and he **was carrying** (carry) a bag. They **stopped** (stop) to talk for a few minutes.

## 2) Put the verb into the past simple or past continuous.

1. A: What **were you doing** (you/do) when the phone **rang** (ring)?  
B: I **was watching** (watch) television.
2. A: Was Jane busy when you went to see her?  
B: Yes, she **was studying** (study).
3. A: What time **did** the post **arrive** (the post/arrive) this morning?  
B: It **came** (come) while I **was having** (have) breakfast.
4. A: Was Margaret at work today?  
B: No, she **didn't go** (not/go) to work. She was ill.
5. A: How fast **were** you **driving** (you/drive) when the police **stopped** (stop) you?  
B: I don't know exactly but I **wasn't driving** (not/drive) very fast.
6. A: **Did** your team **win** (your team/win) the football match yesterday?  
B: No, the weather was very bad, so we **didn't play** (not/play).
7. A: How **did** you **break** (you/break) the window?  
B: We **were playing** (play) football. I **kicked** (kick) the ball and it **hit** (hit) the window.
8. A: **Did** you **see** (you/see) Jenny last night?  
B: Yes, she **was wearing** (wear) a very nice jacket.
9. A: What **were** you **doing** (you/do) at 2 o'clock this morning?  
B: I was asleep.
10. A: I **lost** (lose) my key last night.  
B: How **did** you **get** (you/get) into your room?  
A: I **climbed** (climb) in through a window.

