

## Grammar

### Past simple and past continuous

#### 1 Circle the correct words.

I **went** / **was going** to bed because I was tired.

- We **talked** / **were talking** to Laura when my phone rang.
- What were you doing when the wildfire **started** / **was starting**?
- My parents **met** / **were meeting** at university.
- I dropped my phone when I **sent** / **was sending** a message.
- I **went** / **was going** to France last year.

#### LOOK!

I was walking home **when I saw** Peter.  
I saw Peter **while I was walking** home.

#### 2 Complete the sentences with *when* or *while*.

I was watching TV when the phone rang.

- The storm started \_\_\_\_\_ we were having dinner.
- There was a flood \_\_\_\_\_ we were staying in the hotel.
- We were travelling in Italy \_\_\_\_\_ the volcano erupted.
- We were sitting in the garden \_\_\_\_\_ we saw the fire.
- It started raining \_\_\_\_\_ I was walking to school.

#### 3 Complete the sentences with the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

They were playing computer games when we arrived. (play)

- We \_\_\_\_\_ the fire while we were driving home. (see)
- Sam and Jess \_\_\_\_\_ TV when they felt the earthquake. (watch)
- The avalanche started while they \_\_\_\_\_ down the mountain. (ski)
- I \_\_\_\_\_ about the landslide while I was watching the news. (hear)
- Sonia \_\_\_\_\_ home when the blizzard started. (walk)

#### 4 Complete the questions for the answers.

What were you doing (do) when the earthquake happened (happen)?

When the earthquake happened I was reading a book.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (sleep) when the tornado \_\_\_\_\_ (start)?

No, I wasn't sleeping when the tornado started.

(2) What \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (do)?

I was walking in the park.

(3) What \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (do) when you \_\_\_\_\_ (see) the tornado?

When I saw the tornado, I ran home.

(4) How long \_\_\_\_\_ the tornado \_\_\_\_\_ (last)?

It lasted for 20 minutes.

