

# Unit 5

## Words to Learn

### Weather

cloudy /'klaʊdi/ nublado/a (it's ~: hay nubes)

cold /kəʊld/ frío/a (it's ~: hace frío)

cool /ku:l/ fresco/a

dry /draɪ/ seco/a, árido/a

foggy /'fɒgi/ de niebla, brumoso/a (it's ~: hay niebla)

hot /hɒt/ caluroso/a, cálido/a (it's ~: hace calor)

icy /'aɪsi/ helado/a (it's ~: hiela)

rainy /'reɪni/ lluvioso/a

snowy /'snəʊi/ nevoso/a, de mucha nieve

stormy /'stɔ:mi/ tormentoso/a (it's ~: hay tormenta)

sunny /'sʌni/ soleado/a (it's ~: hace sol)

warm /wɔ:m/ cálido/a, templado/a (it's ~: hace buena temperatura)

wet /wet/ lluvioso/a

windy /'wɪndi/ ventoso/a, de mucho viento (it's ~: hace viento)

### Disasters

avalanche /'ævələ:nʃ/ avalancha, alud

drought /draʊt/ sequía

earthquake /'ɜ:kweɪk/ terremoto

fire /'faɪə/ incendio

flood /flʌd/ inundación

hurricane /'hʌrɪkən/ huracán

storm /stɔ:m/ tormenta

tornado /tɔ:'neɪdəʊ/ tornado

tsunami /tsu:'nɑ:mi/ tsunami

volcanic eruption /vɒl'kænɪk ɪrəpʃn/ erupción volcánica

### 1 Copy and complete the sentences with the words below.

cold • foggy • cloudy • icy • rainy • warm  
windy

- I fell and hurt my knee because the street was .....
- My hat flew into the river because it was very .....
- Please close the window. It's .....
- I can't see anything. It's .....
- Have you got an umbrella? It's a ..... day.
- The sky is very blue. It isn't .....
- It's 23°C today so it isn't very hot. It's .....

### 2 In your notebook, write a sentence about the weather today in each city.

1. London



4. Cairo



2. Paris



5. Moscow



3. Bangkok



6. Tokyo



### 3 Which word doesn't belong? Write the answers in your notebook.

- cool • cold • hot • icy
- dry • rainy • snowy • wet
- foggy • cloudy • stormy • sunny
- warm • snowy • sunny • hot

### 4 Match A to B to make sentences. Write the answers in your notebook.

#### A

- We saw the lava,
- When the furniture started moving,
- Thousands of animals lost their homes
- We saw a strange dark cloud on the horizon
- The people ran away
- They found the skiers under the snow
- All of the trees and plants died

#### B

- in the terrible forest fire.
- because of the drought.
- before the tsunami hit the beach.
- so we knew it was a volcanic eruption.
- after the avalanche.
- and knew it was a tornado.
- we understood it was an earthquake.

### 5 Read the sentences and write T (true) or F (false) in your notebook.

- Floods can cause a drought.
- Avalanches happen in the mountains.
- Storms usually happen on sunny days.
- It's very windy when there's a hurricane.
- There can be an earthquake under the sea.
- A volcanic eruption is very cold.
- Some tornadoes can lift a car.



## Grammar Appendix

## El Past Continuous

El *Past Continuous* se usa para decir lo que estaba ocurriendo en un momento concreto del pasado. Se suele usar con estas expresiones temporales: las que llevan **ago** (hace) al final de la expresión, **at** + una hora, **last night** (anoche), **yesterday morning / afternoon** (ayer por la mañana / tarde), etc. Todas pueden ir al principio o al final de la frase, pero se suelen poner al final.

En afirmativa se forma con **was / were** + un verbo terminado en **-ing**. Para añadir **-ing** al verbo hay que seguir las mismas reglas ortográficas que para formar el *Present Continuous*.

*It was raining yesterday morning.* (Estuvo lloviendo ayer por la mañana.)

En negativa se añade la partícula **not** o la contracción **n't** a **was / were** (**wasn't** y **weren't**).

*The neighbours weren't talking about the fire.* (Los vecinos no estaban hablando sobre el incendio.)

En interrogativa se pone **Was / Were** + el sujeto + un verbo terminado en **-ing**. En las respuestas breves se pone el pronombre personal sujeto y **was / were** o **wasn't / weren't**.

*Were you driving at the time of the earthquake?* Yes, I **was**. / No, I **wasn't**.

(¿Estabas conduciendo en el momento del terremoto? Sí. / No.)

Si la pregunta tiene una partícula interrogativa, se pone esta primero, antes de **was / were**.

*Why was she crying during the storm?* (¿Por qué estaba llorando durante la tormenta?)

**1 What was happening at the Carsons' house at 8.00 yesterday evening? Choose the correct answer. Write the answers in your notebook.**

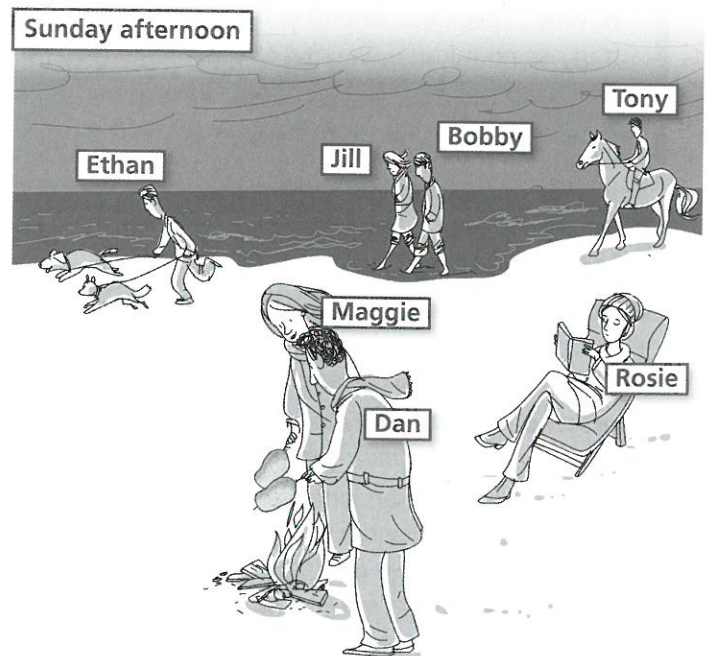
- Mum and Dad **was listening / were listening** to the weather forecast.
- They **weren't preparing / wasn't preparing** dinner.
- Greg **wasn't walking / weren't walking** the dog.
- He and Jenny **was playing / were playing** computer games.
- Chris **weren't watching / wasn't watching** TV.
- He **was sleeping / were sleeping** on the sofa.
- Beth **were looking / was looking** for her mobile phone.

**2 Copy and complete the sentences with the verbs in brackets. Use the Past Continuous.**

- It was cloudy yesterday afternoon, but it ..... (not rain).
- The students ..... (have) an English lesson at 11 o'clock this morning.
- Mum ..... (watch) her favourite TV show at 4 o'clock this afternoon.
- We ..... (not eat) dinner at 9 o'clock last night.
- At this time last week, we ..... (fly) to Rome.
- Jack ..... still ..... (live) in France a year ago.
- I ..... (not work) at three o'clock. I stayed at home all day.
- Your parents ..... (not talk) to the teacher ten minutes ago.

**3 The sentences below are wrong. Write two correct sentences about the people. Use the affirmative and negative forms of the Past Continuous and the expressions below.**

ride a horse • cook potatoes • run on the beach  
sit in a chair • walk in the water



- Rosie was standing in the sea.
- Maggie and Dan were making a salad.
- Tony was driving a jeep.
- Jill and Bobby were throwing a ball.
- Ethan was having lunch.



#### 4 In your notebook, write questions with the words below. Use the Past Continuous. Then match the questions to the answers.

1. Sarah / send / text messages / during the lesson
2. who / you / talk to / half an hour ago
3. your parents / watch / the news / at 8.00 yesterday evening
4. what / Dave / do / in the garage / at 6.00 this morning
5. the dog / sleep / on the sofa / at 11.00 last night

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| a. My friend Alice. | d. Yes, it was.    |
| b. Fixing his bike. | e. Yes, they were. |
| c. No, she wasn't.  |                    |

#### 5 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs below. Use the Past Continuous. Write the answers in your notebook.

laugh • not move • happen • snow • not go • play  
create • not fly

On 2nd November, 2009, Mai Ling looked out of her window in Beijing, China. It <sup>1</sup> ..... Cars <sup>2</sup> ..... in the streets and aeroplanes <sup>3</sup> ..... Children <sup>4</sup> ..... in the snow and they <sup>5</sup> ..... They <sup>6</sup> ..... to school. It snowed for 11 hours that day. The people of Beijing were surprised. It didn't usually snow at the beginning of November, so what <sup>7</sup> ..... ? Nobody knew the real reason except the Chinese government. The Weather Department <sup>8</sup> ..... the snow! After a very dry summer, they decided to send rockets into the clouds, causing millions of tons of snow to fall on the city in one day.

### Check Yourself!

Copy and complete the sentences with the verbs in brackets. Use the correct form of the Past Continuous.

1. It was hot during the day. We ..... (not wear) sweaters.
2. Tim wasn't in the office yesterday. He ..... (work) at home.
3. .... you ..... (talk) on the phone an hour ago?
4. I ..... (not listen) to the weather forecast at 6.00.
5. It was 50°C in Death Valley. Birds ..... (die) from the heat.
6. Why ..... people ..... (shout) in the street at midnight?
7. By 10.00 this morning, the weather ..... (get) warm.
8. A week after the disaster, rescue helicopters ..... (not look) for any more survivors.

► Answers, see page 167

### EXTRA!

#### Contraste entre el Past Simple y el Past Continuous

El *Past Simple* indica que la acción ocurrió y terminó en el tiempo especificado en la frase, mientras que el *Past Continuous* expresa acciones prolongadas que estaban ocurriendo en el pasado.

It **snowed** yesterday. (Nevó ayer.)

It **was snowing** this morning. (Estuvo nevando esta mañana.)

Los dos tiempos se usan juntos para expresar que en medio de una acción prolongada ocurrió algo. La acción más breve lleva **when** (cuando) y el verbo en *Past Simple*, y la acción prolongada lleva las conjunciones **while** o **as** (mientras) y el verbo en *Past Continuous*.

He was walking in the forest **when** the fire **started**. (Estaba andando por el bosque cuando empezó el incendio.)

The fire **started while / as** he **was walking** in the forest. (El incendio empezó mientras estaba andando por el bosque.)

Si las dos acciones son prolongadas y simultáneas, se usa **while** o **as** y los dos verbos van en *Past Continuous*.

I **was building** a snowman **while / as** my friends **were ice skating**. (Estaba haciendo un muñeco de nieve mientras mis amigos estaban patinando sobre hielo.)

#### 6 Copy and complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use the Past Simple and Past Continuous.

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|--|--|
| 1. Mum ..... (wait) when the train ..... (arrive).         | 4. When we ..... (wake) up, it ..... (snow).                           |
| 2. We ..... (see) a dolphin while we ..... (swim).         | 5. The teacher ..... (sit) at her desk while we ..... (take) the test. |
| 3. While I ..... (walk) the dog, I ..... (meet) my friend. | 6. It ..... (rain) when we ..... (leave) the house.                    |