Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Past Continuous Exercises

Part 1: Complete the sentences. Choose from the words in the box.

was studying was singing was sleeping were playing were laughing

was cooking were talking was reading was driving were having

1. I was studying when the phone rang.
2. She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dinner while I was watching TV.
3. They \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_football in the park when it started raining.
4. He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_a book while she was taking a nap.
5. We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_a picnic when the birds suddenly flew away.
6. The children \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and playing games at the birthday party.
7. While I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_home, I saw a beautiful sunset.
8. They \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_loudly in the library, disturbing everyone around them.
9. She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a song when her voice cracked.
10. He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ soundly when the alarm went off.

Part 2: Match the beginnings and ends of the sentences.

1. The teacher was explaining the lesson \_\_\_
2. We were walking in the forest \_\_\_
3. I was listening to music \_\_\_
4. They were dancing on the stage \_\_\_
5. While he was jogging, \_\_\_
6. She was typing on her computer \_\_\_
7. We were waiting for the bus \_\_\_
8. They were arguing about the movie plot \_\_\_
9. I was enjoying my meal \_\_\_
10. He was practicing the guitar \_\_\_
11. while I was cleaning my room.
12. while the students were taking notes.
13. while I was trying to concentrate on my book.
14. when I realized I forgot to add salt.
15. when we heard a strange noise.
16. when it arrived.
17. while his sister was playing the piano.
18. when the screen froze.
19. when the lights went out.
20. he tripped and fell down.

Part 3: Put the verb into the correct form, past continuous or past simple.

1. The children were playing in the park when it started getting dark.
2. They \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (hike) in the mountains when they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (spot) a rare bird.
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (you/go) to the movie theater yesterday? Yes. The movie was great!
4. While I was at the supermarket, I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (buy) eggs, milk, and fruit.
5. She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (jog) in the park when she \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (twist) her ankle.
6. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (eat) breakfast at 7 o’clock this morning. While \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (eat), I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (knock) over a glass of milk.
7. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (enjoy) a cup of tea when the doorbell \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (ring).
8. While I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (walk) in the park, I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (see) a family of ducks swimming in the pond.
9. What \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (you/do) last weekend? I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (play) football with some friends and then we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (have) dinner together.
10. The power \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (go) out when they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (play) video games.

Part 4: Write five sentences using the past continuous tense.

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