

GRAMMAR REFERENCE AND PRACTICE

WITH A TEACHER

UNIT 5

Practice

1 Complete the sentences with the verbs in the box.

emailed	talked	were talking	watched	was
watching	waited	were emailing	were waiting	

- 1 I _____ the TV when the phone rang.
- 2 I got to the airport and _____ for my friend to arrive.
- 3 I _____ a film, and then I went to sleep.
- 4 We chatted while we _____ for the bus.
- 5 I _____ to Ben two days ago.
- 6 They _____ to each other when I saw them.
- 7 She _____ me ten times yesterday!
- 8 When we _____ each other, we sent lots of jokes and photos.

2 Choose the correct form of the verbs.

- 1 I *didn't hear* / *wasn't hearing* Elinor come into my room because I *wore* / *was wearing* headphones.
- 2 We *all celebrated* / *were all celebrating* when we *got* / *were getting* our exam results.
- 3 My grandad *found* / *was finding* some gold coins when he *worked* / *was working* in his garden.
- 4 I *broke* / *was breaking* my arm when I *learned* / *was learning* to ski.
- 5 My mum *drove* / *was driving* home from work when she *got* / *was getting* my text, so she couldn't answer it.
- 6 When Sonia *opened* / *was opening* the garage door she *discovered* / *was discovering* her new bike.
- 7 I *chatted* / *was chatting* to a friend on the phone when the train *went* / *was going* into a tunnel and I never *heard* / *was hearing* the end of her story.
- 8 Tomas *emailed* / *was emailing* me twice while I *mended* / *was mending* my bike but I *didn't check* / *wasn't checking* my laptop until later.

3 Complete the story. Use the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs.

Marcus Jones was very lucky last weekend. He

⁰ was cycling (cycle) home from the city centre. It
¹ _____ (snow) and the road was icy. Suddenly his
bike ² _____ (slip) and he ³ _____ (fall off) onto
the pavement. He ⁴ _____ (pick up) his bike off the
road when he ⁵ _____ (see) something in the sky. It
⁶ _____ (move) towards him very fast. He ⁷ _____
(jump) back onto the pavement and the object
⁸ _____ (hit) the road. It was a piece of a meteorite.
'I was glad I ⁹ _____ (not stand) there!' he ¹⁰ _____
(tell) journalists later.

4 Make sentences. Use the past continuous or past simple form of the verbs.

1 I / visit / my friends. Afterwards, I / take / the bus home.

2 Luke / walk / into the door because he / not look / ahead.

3 It / snow / at lunchtime, so I / not go / for a walk.

4 I / not be / hungry, so I / not have / anything to eat.

5 My sister / crash / into a traffic light when she / ride / her scooter.

6 I / think / about the holidays. Then suddenly, I / realise / the time.

5 Complete the story. Use the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs.

On a cold January morning, Flight 1549
⁰ was taking off (take off) from a New York airport
when it ¹ _____ (hit) some birds. The engines
² _____ (stop) almost immediately. Captain
Sullenberger quickly realised that the plane
³ _____ (fall) very fast. There was only one place
he could land the plane: on the Hudson River in
the middle of New York!

Steven Day is a photographer. That morning he
⁴ _____ (work) on his computer when someone
passed his desk. 'What's that?' they asked, pointing
to something on the river. Steven ⁵ _____ (find)
his camera. At first, he didn't know what he
⁶ _____ (take) pictures of. 'It ⁷ _____ (move)
down the river, like a boat,' he said. When he
looked closely, he ⁸ _____ (see) it was a plane.
People ⁹ _____ (stand) on its wings in the
middle of the river!

The next day Stephen's photograph ¹⁰ _____
(appear) in newspapers and on websites all over
the world.

