

Grammar Practice: Past Continuous

Task 1: A Mystery

Last night Lewis Meyer died at his home in Miami. Phil Fork, a police detective, was the first person to arrive at the house after Mr. Meyer died. This is what he found.



Mr. Meyer's wife, Margo, told Fork, "It was an accident. My husband took a shower at around 10:00 pm. After his shower, he slipped on a piece of soap and fell down."

Do you believe her? What probably happened? Look at the picture and work with your partners. Decide if the following sentences are probably true (T) or probably false (F). Be ready to share your answers with the class.

Sentences	T	F
1. Mr. Meyer died after Phil Fork arrived.		f
2. Mr. Meyer died when Phil Fork arrived.		f
3. Mr. Meyer died before Phil Fork arrived.	t	
4. Mr. Meyer brushed his teeth before he died.		f
5. Mr. Meyer was brushing his teeth when he died.		f
6. Mr. Meyer was taking a shower when he died.		f
7. Mr. Meyer took a shower before he died.		f
8. Mr. Meyer died when he slipped on a piece of soap.		f
9. Somebody hit Mr. Meyer on the head while he was brushing his teeth.	t	
10. The murder weapon is still in the bathroom.	v	

You are the detective. Use the picture and your answers from the exercise above to write a short explanation about what really happened.

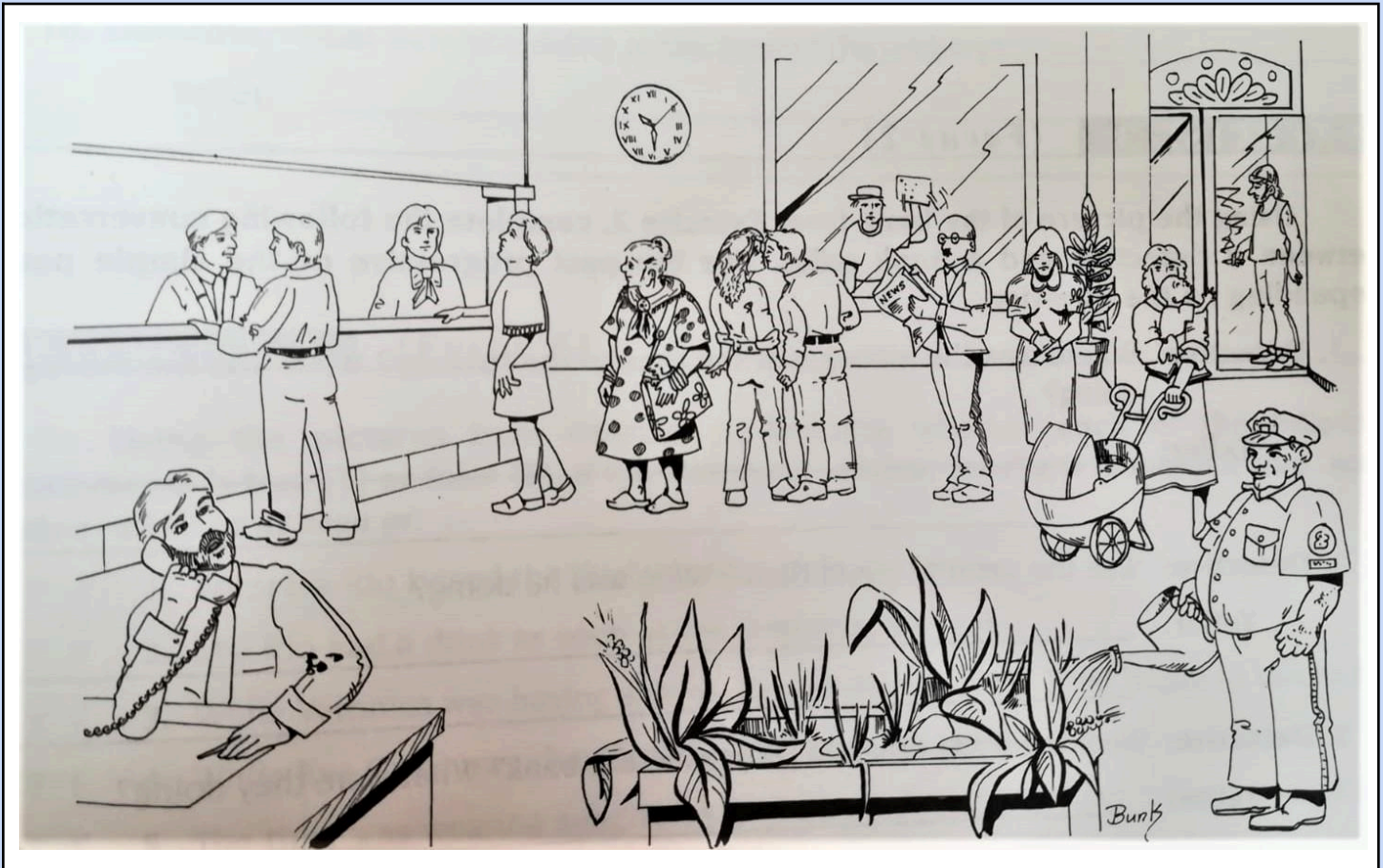
What really happened?: We think...

His wife killed him

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Task 2: Bank Robbery

Imagine that you were at the bank when a robbery occurred. This is what was happening just before the robbery occurred.



The police decide to interview you about the robbery. Answer the questions based on the picture.

1. Where was the manager at the time of the robbery and what was the manager doing?
a. ...is on a call // He was talking on the phone. He was calling someone.
2. Was the security guard there? What was he doing?
a. ...he was watering the plants
3. Were there any other employees in the bank? What were they doing?
a. ...they are serving the customers
4. Were there any customers standing in line? If so, how many?
a. ...
5. Please describe the person who was first in line.
a. ...
6. Please describe the person who was last in line.
a. ...
7. Was anyone acting suspiciously?
a. ...

8. What time was it?

a. ...

9. You said that there was a man outside the door. What was he wearing?

a. ...

10. What were you doing at the time of the robbery?

a. ...