

Clase 12

A – Read the following text and follow up the activities

What was he doing? What was happening?

Last night at 7 o'clock Nate was taking pictures of birds. He was walking through the city park when he saw a fire. An old empty building near the park was on fire. Nate pulled out his camera.

He was taking pictures of the fire when the fire trucks pulled up. The firefighters jumped out. They hooked up their hoses. While they were fighting the fire, Nate was taking more pictures.

The firefighters were fighting the fire and Nate was taking more pictures when it started to rain. The rain helped to put the fire out. The firefighters were clapping and Nate was cheering. The fire was finally out.

B – Answer the following questions according to the text

1. What was Nate doing last night at 7 o'clock?
2. What was Nate doing when the fire trucks pulled up?
3. What were the firefighters doing when the rain started?
4. Why were the firefighters clapping?
5. What was Nate doing while the firefighters were clapping?

C – Now pay attention to the underlined verbs in the text: was taking – was walking – were fighting.

Let's think about them:

- ¿Estos verbos muestran una acción que se desarrolló y terminó en un momento específico o dan idea de lo que estaba sucediendo en un determinado momento en el pasado?
- En cada caso tenemos dos partes en los verbos: was/were (los pasados del verbo to be) + verbo con "ing" (en gerundio que al igual que en el Present Continuous nos muestran una acción en movimiento).
- A este tiempo lo llamamos **Past Continuous** y uno de los usos es mostrando el "background" (lo que estaba pasando detrás) de una situación. Imaginen que estamos viendo una película y vemos que hacen los actores secundarios mientras los actores principales están desarrollando una escena.
- Así se forma el Past Continuous:

| + | - | ? |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| I was working | I wasn't working | Was I working? |
| You were working | You weren't working | Were you working? |
| He/she/it was working | He/she/it wasn't working | Was he/she/it working? |
| We were working | We weren't working | Were we working? |
| You were working | You weren't working | Were you working? |
| They were working | They weren't working | Were they working? |

En la siguiente escena:



El choque es la situación principal:

- There was a crash in front of the school yesterday.

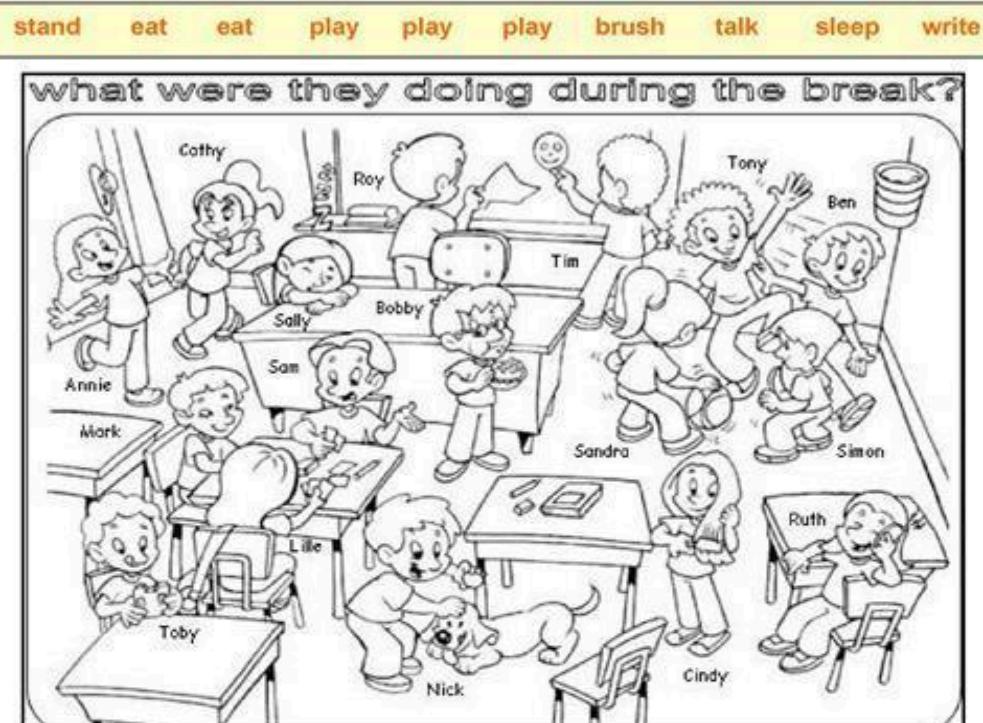
Las acciones de las demás personas serían el “background” de esta historia:

- A man **was Reading** a newspaper near the school.
- A singer **was playing** the guitar in the corner.

- The students **were studying** at school.
- Some women **were having** a party.

D – Look at the picture and write what were the students doing during the break.

It was 10 o'clock in the morning and the students were alone during the break...



- a) Toby _____
- b) Nick _____
- c) Lily, Sam and Mark _____
- d) Annie _____
- e) Sally _____
- f) Bobby _____
- g) Sandra, Simon and Tony _____
- h) Cindy _____
- i) Ruth _____
- j) Tim and Roy _____

E – Now write four sentences about what you and your friends were doing during the break yesterday or last week:

1- _____

2- _____

3- _____

4- _____

Clase 13

A – Read the following text and be ready for the activities:

DETECTIVE STORIES

Yesterday night somebody broke into our neighbor's house. He stole everything he found. They saw him while he was running away but they couldn't catch him. This morning an inspector came and asked some questions:

The inspector also asked Mrs. White some questions:

The Inspector: What were you doing when your husband was in the kitchen?

Mrs. White: While I was watching the movie I was drinking my coffee.

The Inspector: Coffee? But your husband was preparing tea.

Mrs. White: Tea? No... We didn't drink tea last night.

The Inspector: OK. What was he doing in the kitchen?

Mrs. White: He was thirsty. He wanted to drink water.

The Inspector: Hmm. What happened then?

Mrs. White: A friend of him called him and he went out to help him.

The Inspector: So you were alone at home, weren't you?

Mrs. White: Yes, I was. I called him immediately but he didn't answer.

The inspector asked Mr. White some questions:

The Inspector: What were you doing when the thief broke into the house?

Mr. White: I was watching a movie with my wife. Then I went to the kitchen to prepare the tea...

The Inspector: How many minutes did you spend in the kitchen?

Mr. White: I think 10 or 15 minutes... I'm not sure...

The Inspector: Did you only prepare the tea?

Mr. White: Yes.

The Inspector: OK. Thanks.

The inspector was suspicious about Mr. White and he asked for him to come to his office. The Inspector started questioning:

The Inspector: You weren't at home when the thief broke into your house.

Where were you?

Mr. White: I went out to help a friend of mine.

The Inspector: Who was he?

Mr. White: A friend...

The Inspector: Hmmm... **Who**?

Mr. White: I said that he was a friend of mine.

The Inspector: If you cannot prove that you were with your friend, we will arrest you!

B – Underline in the text all the verbs in **Past Continuous** (there is an example given).

Example: was watching.

C – Now complete this chart with the verbs in Simple Past

| Regular verbs | Irregular verbs |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Example: ask - asked | Example: go - went |

D – Answer the questions according to the story

1. Did Mrs. White see the thief?
2. What was Mrs. White doing when the thief broke into the house?
3. Was Mr. White with his wife when the thief broke into the house?
4. What was Mr. White doing in the kitchen?
5. Did Mr. White really prepare the tea?
6. Why did Mr. White go out?
7. Did the Inspector believe Mr. White?
8. Did Mr. White say who his friend was?

E – Read the story again and write 3 sequences which you think are TRUE and three sequences you think are FALSE.

True sequences:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

False sequences

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
