

TENSE & ASPECT: Past Tense



a) In the following sentences, put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense (either *past simple* or *past continuous*).

1. They _____ (work) on the roof when the rain _____ (start).
2. The dog _____ (sleep) peacefully when he _____ (step) on its tail.
3. Did you have to _____ (disturb) me? I _____ (do) my homework.
4. I've no idea where she was yesterday! I _____ (work) in my office all day and I never _____ (open) the door!

b) In the following sentences, which answer is NOT correct?

You can use the past continuous for an action which

- a. is ongoing at the moment of speaking
- b. happened in the past and took a long time
- c. was ongoing when something else happened
- d. was ongoing at a particular point in time

SOLUTION

a)

1. They were working on the roof when the rain started.
2. The dog was sleeping peacefully when he stepped on its tail.
3. Did you have to disturb me? I was doing my homework.
4. I've no idea where she was yesterday! I was working in my office all day and I never opened the door!

b)

You can use the past continuous for an action which

- a. is ongoing at the moment of speaking
- b. happened in the past and took a long time
- c. was ongoing when something else happened
- d. was ongoing at a particular point in time

NOT CORRECT