

Past Progressive Story 3 (Past Continuous)

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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 pictures when the rain started. The rain helped put the fire out. The firefighters were clapping and Nate was cheering. The fire was finally out.

Past Progressive Story 3 – Exercises

A. Answer the following questions. Use the Past Progressive tense.

1. What was Nate doing last night at 7 o'clock? Where was he walking when he saw the fire?

2. What was Nate doing when the fire trucks pulled up?

3. What were the firefighters doing when the rain started? What were they doing when the fire went out?

B. Rewrite the following sentences as negative sentences, yes/no questions, WH-questions (using the underlined word or phrase) and tag questions.

Examples for the sentence "I was reading when you called."

Negative: I was not reading when you called.

Yes/No Question: Was I reading when you called?

WH-Question: What was I doing when you called?

Tag Question: I was reading when you called, wasn't I?

1. He was walking through the city park when he saw the fire.

Negative: _____

Yes/No Question: _____

WH-Question: _____

Tag Question: _____

2. Nate was taking pictures.

Negative: _____

Yes/No Question: _____

WH-Question: _____

Tag Question: _____

3. The firefighters were fighting the fire.

Negative: _____

Yes/No Question: _____

WH-Question: _____

Tag Question: _____

C. This is a copy of the original story. Fill in the blanks with the Past Progressive form of each verb in parentheses.

Last night at 7 o'clock, Nate _____ (take) pictures of birds. He _____ (walk) 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 _____ (take) pictures of the fire when the fire trucks pulled up. The firefighters jumped out. They hooked up their hoses. While they _____ (fight) the fire, Nate _____ (take) more pictures.

The firefighters _____ (fight) the fire and Nate _____ (take) pictures when the rain started. The rain helped put the fire out. The firefighters _____ (clap) and Nate _____ (cheer). The fire was finally out.

Past Progressive Story 3 – Answers

A. Answer the following questions. Use the Past Progressive tense.

1. What was Nate doing last night at 7 o'clock? Where was he walking when he saw the fire?

Last night at 7 o'clock, Nate was taking pictures of birds. He was walking through the city park when he saw the fire.

2. What was Nate doing when the fire trucks pulled up?

Nate was taking pictures of the fire when the fire trucks pulled up.

3. What were the firefighters doing when the rain started? What were they doing when the fire went out?

When the rain started, the firefighters were fighting the fire. They were clapping when the fire went out.

B. Rewrite the following sentences as negative sentences, yes/no questions, WH-questions (using the underlined word or phrase) and tag questions.

1. He was walking through the city park when he saw the fire.

Negative: He was not walking through the city park when he saw the fire.

Yes/No Question: Was he walking through the city park when he saw the fire?

WH-Question: What was he walking through when he saw the fire?

Tag Question: He was walking through the city park when he saw the fire, wasn't he?

2. Nate was taking pictures.

Negative: Nate was not taking pictures.

Yes/No Question: Was Nate taking pictures?

WH-Question: Who was taking pictures?

Tag Question: Nate was taking pictures, wasn't he?

3. The firefighters were fighting the fire.

Negative: The firefighters were not fighting the fire.

Yes/No Question: Were the firefighters fighting the fire?

WH-Question: What were the firefighters fighting?

Tag Question: The firefighters were fighting the fire, weren't they?

C. This is a copy of the original story. Fill in the blanks with the Past Progressive form of each verb in parentheses.

Last night at 7 o'clock, Nate was taking (take) pictures of birds. He was walking (walk) 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 (take) pictures of the fire when the fire trucks pulled up. The firefighters jumped out. They hooked up their hoses. While they were fighting (fight) the fire, Nate was taking (take) more pictures.

The firefighters were fighting (fight) the fire and Nate was taking (take) pictures when the rain started. The rain helped put the fire out. The firefighters were clapping (clap) and Nate was cheering (cheer). The fire was finally out.

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