

## Guessing game: Past continuous

by Jill Hadfield

**Level:** Intermediate

**Target age:** Secondary / adult

**Time needed:** 30 minutes

**Grammar objective:** to practise the past continuous

**Materials:** one worksheet per student

**Summary:** This is an accuracy-based guessing game to practise *What were you doing ... ?*, *You were -ing* and *I was -ing*.

### Procedure

- Put students into pairs and ask them to sit back-to-back.
- Give each student a worksheet.
- Students should complete the worksheet as if they were their partner using the past continuous, and guessing what their partner would write in each case.
- When they have finished, they should tell each other what they have written. Their partner must say if it is true or not. For example:
 

**Alicia:** Miyuki, at midnight on 1st January, you were having a party.

**Miyuki:** No! I was sleeping.
- Ask pairs to feed back to the class on whose guesses were closer to the truth.

### Extension

- Each pair joins up with another pair to make a group of four.
- A student from Pair 1 mimes what they were doing at a particular time, taken from the worksheet. For example, if at midnight on 1st January he/she was dancing at a party, he/she must mime dancing and perhaps drinking.
- The other team must guess using the past continuous. For example: *You were dancing!*
- The students tells the other pair if their guess is right or not.

- A student from Pair 2 then mimes what they were doing at a particular time, and Pair 1 guesses.
- Play continues for a set time or until all the activities have been acted.
- Conduct feedback about which pair was better at guessing the activities.

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Complete the sentences as if you were your partner!

What were you doing?

At midnight on 1st January, I \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Yesterday at 11am, I \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Last Friday at 2pm, I \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

On Saturday night, I \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

On Valentine's Day, I \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

On my birthday, I \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_