What Were You Doing?
Past Simple vs. Past Continuous

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Vocabulary

Blackout: a failure of an electrical power supply.

Bang: a sudden loud, sharp noise.

Go out: (of a fire or light) to be extinguished.

Occur: to happen; to take place.

Negligence: failure to take proper care over something.

Power station: an installation where electrical power is generated for distribution.

Issue: a problem or difficulty, especially with a service or facility.

Crash: (of a computer or mechanism) fail suddenly.

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Introduction

The **past continuous** and the **past simple** tense are often used together. The past simple is a tense used to show activities finished in the past, and the **past continuous**, on the other hand, usually describes the duration of an action or the continuity of an action in the past that is interrupted by another event.

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