Use

We use the **past simple** for:	We use the **past continuous**:
• an action that happened at a **definite time** (stated or implied) in the **past**. *Tom **moved** to Glasgow a year ago.* (time stated) *He **got** a job in a big law firm there.* (time implied)	• for an action which was **in progress at a stated time** in the past. We don't mention when the action started or finished. *Jon **was studying** for his Maths exam on Sunday evening.*
• actions that happened **immediately one after the other**. *Tim **woke** up, **had** his breakfast and **got** ready for work.*	• for two or more **simultaneous actions** in the past. *Sam **was surfing** the Net while he **was talking** on the phone.*
• **habits** and **states** which are **finished**. *Sam **spent** his summer holidays in Greece when he **was** younger.*	• for an action which was **in progress when another action interrupted it**. We use the past continuous for the action in progress (the longer action) and the past simple for the action which interrupted it (the shorter action). *Alex **was having** a bath when the phone **rang**.*
• a past action which **won't take place again**. *Shakespeare **wrote** many plays.* (He's now dead. He won't be writing any more.)	• to describe the **atmosphere, setting**, etc and **to give background information to a story**. *It was a cold winter's day. The children **were sitting** by the fire, while their mum **was reading** a story.*

when/while/as + past continuous (longer action in progress) *When/While/As she **was watching** TV, the power went out.* (***was watching*** TV is a longer action than went out.)	**when + past simple** (shorter action which interrupts the action in progress) *Bob was surfing the Net **when** the lights **went off**.* (***went off*** is a shorter action than **was surfing**.)

1 Look at the pictures (A-F) and underline all the verbs.
a) What tense are they? How do we form the affirmative, negative and interrogative of these tenses?
b) Which of the uses of these tenses does each verb show?

2 Write the *past simple* of the verbs in the list in the correct box.

- move • try • travel • stay • stop • plan
- rescue • cry • destroy • worry • play
- control • survive • slip • model • enjoy
- quarrel • change • chop • carry

-e + d	*moved,* ....
double consonant + -ed	....
consonant + -y̶ → -ied	....
vowel + -y + -ed	....
verbs ending in -l → -led	....

3 Put the verbs in the *past simple* and write them under the correct heading. Then read them aloud.

- sound • watch • recover • miss • enjoy
- damage • erupt • want • walk • demand
- wash • finish • warn • cause • save • help
- shout • relax • dance • appear • accept
- move • count • clean

/ɪd/	/t/	/d/
sounded	*watched*	*recovered*
....	....	....
....	....	....
....	....	....
....	....	....
....	....	....
....	....	....
....	....	....