**Тема 13 THE VERB: THE PAST SIMPLE TENSE, THE PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE**

**Exercise 1 Comment on the use of the Past Continuous or Simple Past tenses in the following sentences:**

1 Life was changing very quickly during the second half of the ninetieth century.

2 I was listening to the radio when the sensational news suddenly came on.

3 They weren’t sleeping at the time of the earthquake, fortunately.

4 What was happening in the world when you were born?

5 Dr. Johnson was very busy at the hospital yesterday, she was delivering babies all day long.

6 How many people were sitting in the theatre when the fire started?

7 It was bright sunlight in the room when I woke.

8 He turned to him and said that the office smelt like a stagedressing-room.

9 During the study period in class yesterday, it was hard for me to concentrate because the student next to me was humming.

10 When Joan was a child she used to be very nervous, she was always biting her fingernails.

11 She said that she didn’t want to stay there any longer and that she was leaving the country in a week.

12 I looked at my watch, it read five minutes to eleven.

13 He saw that one of the students was having difficulty with the homework.

14 Philip made no haste to move from where he sat.

15 Then he noticed Jack. He was standing in front of the fire and was talking Italian to a man in glasses.

16 She stopped beside Tommy who was in a particularly scornful mood. He was leaving in the morning.

**Exercise 2 Make up situations to justify the use of the Past Сontinuous and the Simple Past in the following pairs of sentences:**

1 Sally cleaned her apartment.

She was cleaning her apartment.

2 I did my laundry.

I was doing my laundry.

3 He filled out his income tax form.

He was filling out his income tax form.

4 I studied English.

I was studying English.

5 Mr. and Mrs. Warren looked for an apartment.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren were looking for an apartment.

6 David and Jeff washed windows.

David and Jeff were washing windows.

7 She typed letters.

She was typing letters.

**Exercise 3 Complete the sentences with the Simple Past or the Past Continuous of the verbs in parentheses:**

1 Yesterday I (to clean) my apartment from the time I (to get up) to the time I (to go) to bed.

2 When the balloon (to burst), everyone (to be startled).

3 Emily accidentally (to stick) her finger with a needle while she (to sew).

4 Maria promised to help us. I hope she (to mean) what she said.

5 While the artist (to paint) her portrait, she (to admire) his handsome profile.

6 I (to write) to him for a while, then I (to stop) writing.

7 There (not to be) anything (to cook) on the stove when I got home.

8 The team (to celebrate) it’s victory at the Olympics all night long.

9 I left myself in with my key and made my way upstairs. Crystal and Arthur (to sit) at the table. They both (to rise) when I (to enter).

10 I couldn’t understand why he (to be) selfish. He wasn’t usually like that.

11 She was very nervous. She (to tear) her dress while she (to change).

12 Mother looked at her son. He (to smell) the soup. She (to see) that the boy (not to want) to eat the soup.

13 We entered our own flat. I (to pick up) two letters which (to lie) on the floor.

14 It was already late. As I (to stop) at the bar to have a drink I (to see) them talking it over.

15 He asked me what work I (to do) and whether I (to intend) to go to the University.

16 She told me last night that she (to go) for a swim if she (to wake) early.

**Exercise 4 Use the Simple Past or the Past Continuous in the following sentences containing *“as”-*clauses, “*while”* -clauses and “*when”*-clauses:**

1 It (to be) idle chitchat as they (to drive) along. 2 While the uniformed attendant (to usher) the last strugglers through the great glass-paneled double doors, the manager (to sit) in his office interviewing Raymond Hewson. 3 It (to rain) as I (to walk) up the hill towards the station at six o clock on a Saturday. 4 The driver was injured. A young woman (to hurry) into the station and (to phone) for an ambulance while I (to take) care of the driver. The poor man (to groan) quietly when the ambulance (to arrive.) at high speed and (to rush) him away to hospital. 5 John (to take) a photograph of me while I (not to look). 6 When she (to come) back an hour later, Daphne still (to work). She never remembered to eat when she (to write). 7 She (to pick up) her handbag and (to walk) out the door as Barbara (to watch her). 8 The doorbell (to ring) while I (to take) a bath. 9 I (to walk) along the road when I (to see) Dave. So I (to stop) and (to have) a chat. 10 The Caliph decided to go to the market and investigate. When he (to find) the man in black, he (to speak) to him angrily.

**Exercise 5 Identify any possible errors in these sentences:**

1 When you lived in London were you travelling by double-decker?

2 I am yet waiting for an answer from him.

3 Everyone was having a good time, although not many people danced.

4 I managed to talk to Carol once she was leaving.

5 Everyone was talking but stopped at the time.

6 We bought our tickets and five minutes after the train arrived.

7 It was more than a month until I realized what had happened.

8 Ann wasn’t seeming very happy at the moment.

9 When he was a student he was often making that mistake.

10 It got dark now and the general drove more slowly than ever.

**Exercise 6 Translate from Russian into English:**

1 Когда мы вышли на улицу, шел снег. 2 С кем вы разговаривали, когда я позвонил вам? 3 Внезапно он понял, что уже подъезжает к нужной остановке. 4 Он нашел этот снимок, когда искал какую-то старую книгу. 5 Я вовсе не пытался обвинить тебя в чем-либо. Я просто пытался обрисовать ситуацию, в которой мы находились. 6 Он вернулся позавчера, верно? 7 Он положил ключ на стол, выключил свет и вышел из комнаты. 8 Кто вчера уходил последним и не закрыл дверь? 9 Письмо пришло вчера? Кто принес его? Почему вы не отдали его сразу? 10 Когда они уехали? – Я не знаю, меня не было дома. 11 Они переехали в этот город пару недель назад. 12 В дверь снова постучали. Они не ответили, и вскоре стук прекратился. 13 Где Вы останавливались, когда были в Лондоне? 14 Они сидели в саду и тихо разговаривали. 15 Вчера с утра до позднего вечера я ждал тебя дома. 16 Никто не пришел навестить его, когда он болел. 17 Он написал последний тест без ошибок. 18 Они впервые встретились, когда отдыхали в Италии. 19 Я видела этот фильм на прошлой неделе. Он мне не понравился. 20 Когда он открыл дверь, его жена сидела в кресле. У нее на коленях лежала открытая книга, но она не читала.