

I was just reading the paper ...

Student's sheet

I was just reading the paper ...

... when my mobile phone rang.

I was reading a book ...

... when she suddenly stood up.

I was making some coffee ...

... when I heard the shouting again.

I was running to the bus stop ...

... when I hit my foot.

I was working in the garden ...

... when the doorbell rang.

I was having a very nice dream ...

... when the alarm went off.

I was making dinner ...

... when I heard a crash outside my window.

I was driving down the street ...

... when a girl fell off her bike just
in front of my car.

I was eating my dinner ...

... when the phone rang.

They were singing "Happy Birthday" ...

... when I went into the room.

I was just reading the paper ...

Teacher's notes

Preparation:

Make one copy for the whole class and cut up the different parts along the lines. Make one copy of the sheet for each student as a handout after the activity.

In class:

The aim of this activity is to address all learner types while practising the past simple and the past continuous. Form two groups, A and B. If you have an odd number of students, take part in the activity yourself.

Students in group A get the beginning of a sentence, students in group B get an ending. Students get up and form a circle. Student A mimes his/her activity and the matching student B reads out his/her second part of the sentence. If possible, act this out, too. Students A and B then read their complete sentence. Then another student A acts out his activity and so on.

Several combinations are possible. Ask students to write their favourite combinations on the board. Which is the funniest combination?

Hand out a copy of the sheet.

Extension activity:

Ask students to think of additional situations and ask them to act them out while the others guess what is happening.