

English 101 Lecture (24)

Revision: Past Continuous

UNIT 10: Communication

- The simple past talks about something that happened before. It happened and it <u>finished</u>. Some words are regular and just have -ed added at the end like walked, helped, and played. Others are irregular and have many variations like ate, began, and slept. The past continuous talks about something that was happening before, but for a <u>period of time</u>. It uses was or were + verb-ing like was eating or were playing. It gives a background for something that was happening while a different event happened.
- Example: While I was eating, the telephone rang.
- So, during the time I was eating (let's say from 6:30-7:00 p.m.) somebody called my house (let's say they called at 6:49p.m.) One thing happened (simple past) during the period of time another thing was happening (past continuous)
- Here is another example: They saw an old man as they were walking down the street.
- You can think of walking as a video. You see the movement. You see the time passing. Think of saw as a photo. It is one point of time. You don't think of the time passing.
- I dreamed in English when I was sleeping.
 She was listening to the radio when the mail came.
 They visited Sydney when they were traveling in Australia.

•	When I (do)	the washing-up, I (break)	a plate.
•	While Tom (play)	the piano, his mother (cashing-up.	do)
	the wa	shing-up.	
•	He (drink) few chips.	some juice and then he (eat) _	a
•	I (have) loud bang.	_dinner when I suddenly (hear)	a
•	When my father (work)by to see	in the garden, an ee him.	old friend (pass)
•	She (go)and (begin)	_to school, (take)to read.	out her textbook
•	When it (start)come inside.	to rain, our dog (want)	to
•	When Jane (do)Blarney	a language course in Irela Castle.	and, she (visit)
•	When I (be)accident.	on my way home, I (see)	an
•	I (not / understand)about.	what they (talk)	

- 1. was doing, I broke
- 2. was playing, was doing
- 3. He drank, he ate
- 4. I was having, I suddenly heard
- 5. was working, passed
- 6. She went, took, began
- 7. started, wanted
- 8. was doing, she visited
- 9. I was, I saw
- 10.1 did not understand, were talking

Communication

In Unit 10, you learn how to . . .

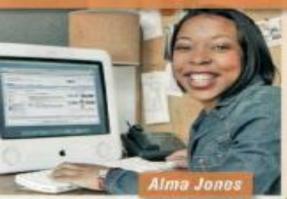
- make comparisons with adjectives.
- use more and less with nouns and verbs.
- talk about different ways of communicating.
- manage phone conversations.
- interrupt and restart conversations on the phone.
- use just to soften things you say.



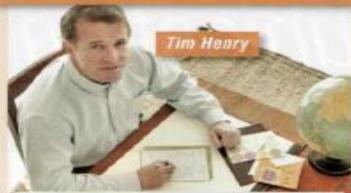
Unit

Keeping in touch

How do you keep in touch with people?



I usually use e-mail. It's quicker and easier than anything else. But I get a lot of spam. There's nothing worse than spam when you're really busy.¹⁷



"I like to write letters. I know regular mail is slower than e-mail, but letters are more personal. And I never send those e-cards. I just think it's nicer to get a real card."



"I send text messages to my friends all day. It's more fun than calling. And you can send photos, too. Too bad I can't do it in class."



"Well, at work we use video conferencing. It's less expensive than a business trip. And more convenient. And you don't get jet lag, either!"



I use a webcam to keep in touch with my parents. They think it's better than the phone because they can see me. I guess it's more interesting."

200	Tim thinks real cards are nicer than e-cards.
3.	Mayumi thinks text messages are less fun than phone calls.
4.	Kayla says video conferences are more expensive than business trips.
5.	Paco's parents think webcam calls are better than phone calls.
1.	False. Alma says e-mail is quicker than anything else.
2.	True.
3.	False. Mayumi thinks text messages are more fun than phone calls.
4.	False. Ken says video conferences are less expensive than business trips.
	True.

1. Alma says e-mail is slower than anything else.

E-communication



B Read the article. Find four reasons why text messaging can be useful.



If you're one of the 70% of cell-phone users who use text messaging, you know that C U L8R means "See you later." "Texting" is now the new way to talk (or "tlk"), especially for young people. But why is that?

It's a love thing.

There's no doubt about it, text messages are for personal communication. Only 10% of messages are work related, and the peak hours for texting are between 10:30 and 11:00 at night!

Most users (64%) say texting is a good way to send romantic messages — it's easier to say "I love you" in a text message than in a phone call. Maybe that explains why more people now use texting to send Valentine's Day messages.

2 Yez









Upsides and downsides

Generally, texting is cheaper than making phone calls. It's also more direct, since you can send or get information without having to ask and answer polite "How are you?" questions.

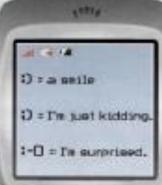
And it's more discreet, too. No one can hear your "conversations," and you can receive text messages almost anywhere — at work, in meetings, or in class. You can also use texting in noisy places like nightclubs, where using a cell phone is difficult.

A new language?

Because it's quicker to "write" without apostrophes and vowels, texting has its own language. And it's fun to use the symbols. There's

a best-selling dictionary (or "DXNRE") for texting called Wan2tik?

Some people say that texting encourages bad punctuation and spelling. On the other hand, more teens are writing than ever before. Now, that has to be a good thing!



- C Read the article again, and answer the questions. Then compare with a partner.
- What do people use texting for?
- 2. Why does texting need its own language? How is it different from "real English"?
- 3. What are some of the advantages of text messaging?
- 4. Why do some people think text messaging is bad?
- 1. Most people use texting for personal communication. A few people use it for work.
- 2. It needs it's own language because it's quicker to "write" without apostrophes and vowels. It does not use correct spelling and complete words.
- 3. See possible answers in Part B.
- 4. Some people think it encourages bad punctuation and spelling.