

16 Question Strips

PAST CONTINUOUS



- What were you doing ten minutes ago?
- What were you doing half an hour ago?
- What were you doing five hours ago?
- What were you doing at seven o'clock this morning?
- What were you thinking about a few minutes ago?
- Were you watching TV last night?
- Was it raining a few hours ago? Was it snowing?
- What was our teacher saying a few minutes ago?
- Were we studying English an hour ago?
- What were you doing at midnight last night?
- What were you doing at noon yesterday?
- Who were you talking to a few minutes ago?
- What was our teacher doing a few minutes ago?
- What were you doing at seven o'clock last night?
- What were you doing at ten o'clock yesterday morning?
- What do you think I was doing three hours ago?

Grammar Focus Past Continuous

Level Elementary to Intermediate (CEFR Level A2 to B1)

- **As a Seated Activity**

Have your students seated in pairs or in groups of three.

Lay the sixteen cut-up questions – face-down – between the students.

Students take turns randomly selecting questions to ask their partner(s).
Encourage follow-up questions.

Be sure to set a time frame for your students (try starting with 10 – 15 minutes for 16 questions; you may want to adjust this in later classes). Monitor and assist.

- **As a Standing Activity 1**

Have all your students stand up.

Give one question strip to each student.

Students find a partner and ask their question. Encourage follow-up questions.

After the students have asked each other their questions, have them exchange question strips and find new partners and continue.

Set a time frame as above. Monitor and assist.

- **As a Standing Activity 2**

This activity runs exactly the same as in ‘Standing Activity 1’ except that students first have about a minute to memorize their question (before placing it in their pocket – it can be used as a prompt if needed).

After each short conversation, students ‘mentally exchange’ their questions – they must help each other memorize their new questions before setting off to find a new partner.

This activity version is a little challenging, but also lots of fun – and it’s great to see all the learning that takes place!

Set a time frame as above. Monitor and assist.