Stories - Past continuous

Bad weather

Yesterday, it was raining heavily all day. Ann was playing inside the house. She wanted to be outside.

What was the weather like yesterday? What was Ann doing?

She wasn't playing outside because it was raining. She was feeling tired of being trapped inside the house.

Why wasn't Ann playing outside? How did Ann feel?

Ann was trying to keep busy inside the house. She was watching TV until there was a power cut. Then, she decided to read. She was reading until lunchtime. After lunch, she sat by the window and watched the rain.

What was Ann trying to do?
What was she doing when there was a power cut?
What did she do next?
How long did she read for?

While Ann was watching the rain, the phone rang. Her mother was calling to say she was coming home. She was bringing some cakes and ice-cream with her.

What was Ann doing when the phone rang? Who was on the phone? What did she want to say?

While they were eating cake and ice-cream, the rain stopped! But Ann didn't even notice. She was having such a good time with her mum!

What happened while they were eating the cakes and ice-cream? Did Ann notice that the rain had stopped?

The delivery

One sunny day, Paul and Matthew were delivering a box to Mr. Thompson. The crate was full of glasses. They were carrying the box on a trolley. They were taking the glasses to Mr. Thompson's store at the end of the street. They were being very careful with the crate full of glasses.

What were Paul and Matthew doing? What was the crate full off?

How were they carrying the box? Where was Mr Thompson's store?

As they were passing by the school, they saw Jack and Tom. Jack and Tom were playing football. Paul and Matthew asked the other boys for help. The four boys steered the trolley through the streets. While Paul and Matthew were pulling from the front, Jack and Tom were pushing from behind.

Who did they see at the school?
What were Jack and Tom doing?
What did Jack and Tom do next?
How were Paul and Matthew moving the trolley?

As they were walking, Paul and Matthew were guiding the trolley over bumps and holes. They were protecting the glasses. When the four boys arrived at the store, Mr. Thompson was waiting for them.

What did Paul and Matthew have to do? Why did they do this? Who was waiting for them at the store?

While Mr. Thompson was unloading the glasses, he thanked the boys for their hard work. None of the glasses were broken! The boys were feeling very proud of their hard work.

Did they boys make it to Mr Thompson's store without breaking any of the glasses? How did the boys feel?

The fire

Last night at 7 o'clock, Jack was taking pictures of birds. He was walking through the city park when he saw a fire.

What was Jack doing at 7pm last night? Where was he? What did he see?

An old, empty building near the park was on fire. Jack pulled out his camera.

What was on fire? What did Jack do?

He was taking pictures of the fire when the fire engines pulled up. The firefighters jumped out. They hooked up their hoses. While they were fighting the fire, Jack was taking more pictures.

What happened when Jack was taking pictures? What did the firefighters do next?

What did Jack do?

The firefighters were fighting the fire and Jack was taking pictures when the rain started. The rain helped put the fire out. The firefighters were clapping and Jack was cheering. The fire was finally out.

What happened next? What did the rain do? What did everyone do?

The motorbike rider

Ben was always riding his motorbike too fast. Yesterday after work, Ben was riding his motorbike home. While everyone else was driving slowly, he was speeding through the streets.

What is Ben always doing?
Where was Ben riding his motorbike to?

He wasn't paying attention and was riding too fast when he suddenly saw the police officer.

Was Ben paying attention? Was he riding fast or slow? Who did he see?

While the police officer was directing traffic, he saw Ben speeding down the street. He was waving his arms at Ben so he had to stop. The police officer gave him a traffic ticket for speeding and a thorough telling off.

What was the police officer doing when he saw Ben? How did he make Ben stop? What two things did the police officer do?

Ben was not feeling happy when he arrived home, but hopefully he has learnt his lesson and will ride his motorbike slower now.

How was Ben feeling when he got home? What will he now do when he rides his motorbike?