

Past Continuous and Past Simple Ghost Story



Warmer

Ask your partner or group:

1. If you have an Apple device, use the QR code to download the LeARn and Explore app, and find the haunted house. How would you describe it?
2. Do you believe in ghosts? Why or why not?
3. What do you think ghosts look like?
4. How would you feel if you saw a ghost?

Vocabulary



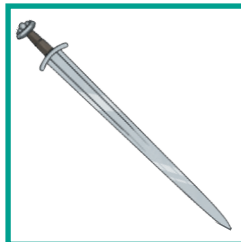
stunned



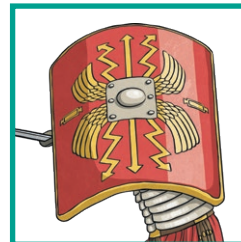
Roman soldier



stare



sword



shield

Gist Read

Read the title of the story. What do you think it's about?
Now, read the story and check your predictions.

The Soldier Who Still Walks the Road

Let me tell you a true story. Many years ago, I had an aunt. My aunt, who was very old, lived in an isolated house far from the town.

One day, she became sick, so I went to stay with her **while she was getting better**.

While I was staying there, I did all the housework. One night, I was doing the washing-up when I saw something move out of the corner of my eye.

I turned around and saw something incredible. **A Roman soldier was walking through the kitchen. He was carrying a sword and shield, and looking straight ahead.**

While he was walking past me, I suddenly felt very, very cold. I simply stared at him as he disappeared into the wall.

I ran into my aunt's room, **but she was sleeping**. Since **she was getting better** from her illness, I decided not to wake her up.

That night, I couldn't sleep. I lay awake in my bed thinking about the Roman soldier. **I was still lying awake when the clock struck 7 a.m.**

In the morning, I told my aunt about the Roman soldier. "Ahhh, you saw the soldier! I often see him. But don't worry, he won't hurt you. He just walks in and walks out, always on the same path."

I stayed with my aunt for three more weeks but I didn't see the Roman soldier again.

One night, many years later, I was having dinner with a friend and he mentioned ghosts, so I told him the story of the Roman soldier. "Where did this happen?" he asked me. I told him.

"Well, that explains it!" he said. "Many years ago there was a Roman road that ran through that village - and that house."

I was stunned. "I guess that the Roman soldier still walks the same road..." I said.



Cut out these cards and put them into order. Then, see if you can tell your partner the story just by looking at the cards.

- **something incredible**
- **Roman soldier**
- **sword and shield**

- **housework**
- **washing-up**
- **corner of my eye**

- **night**
- **awake**
- **clock**

- **dinner**
- **friend**
- **ghosts**

- **morning**
- **aunt**
- **don't worry**
- **path**

- **three weeks**
- **again**

- **one day**
- **sick**
- **better**

- **roman road**
- **village**

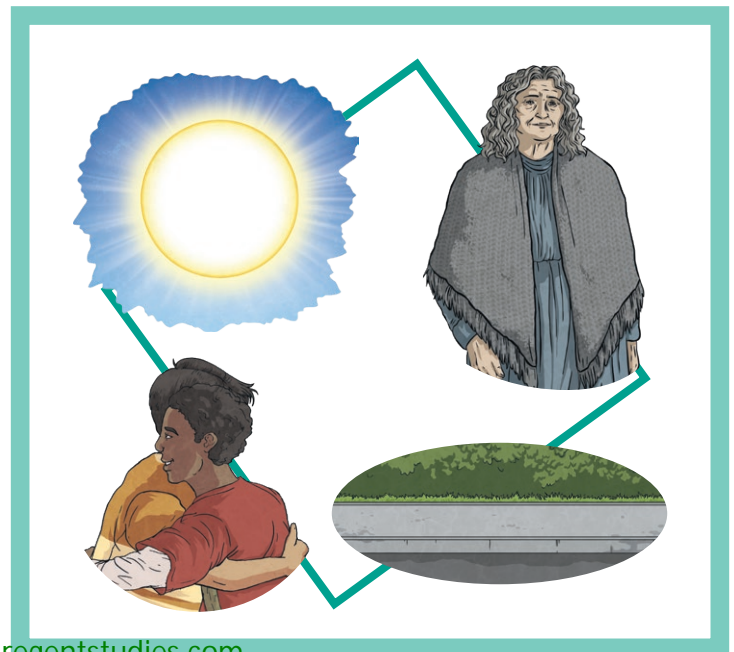
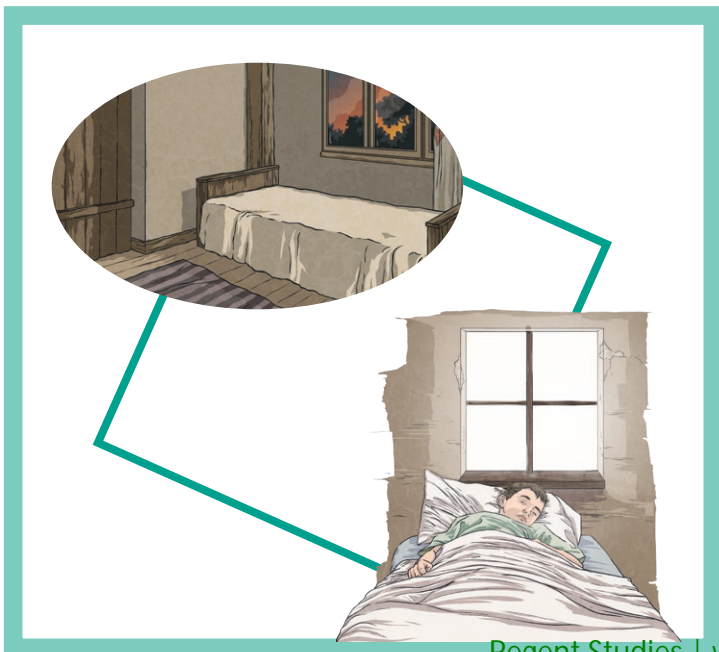
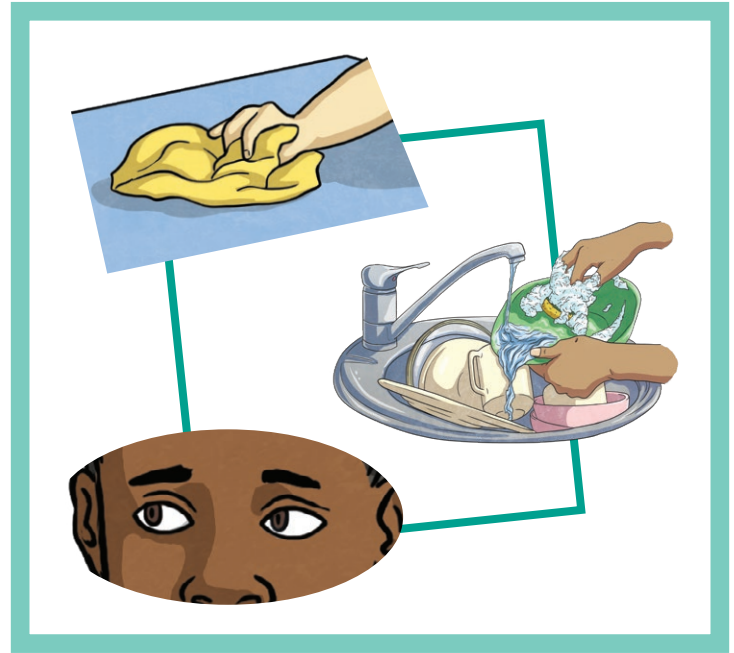
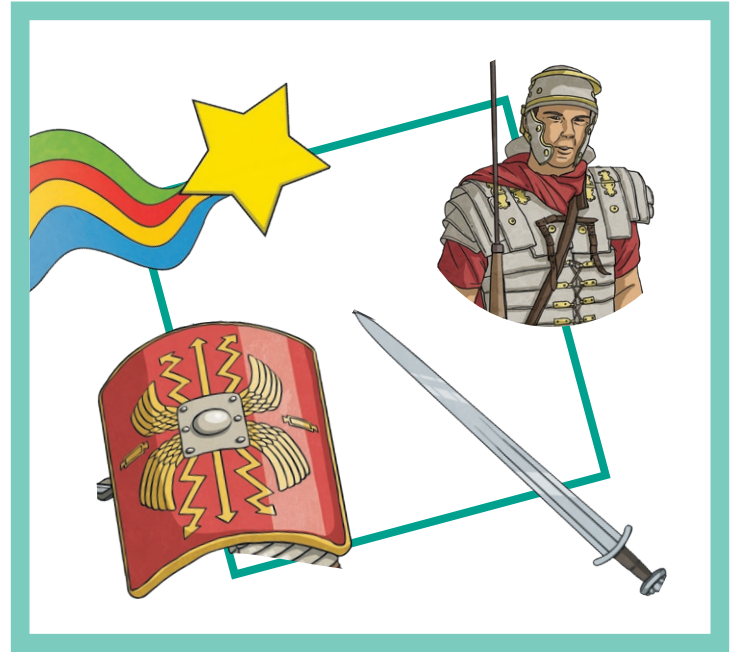
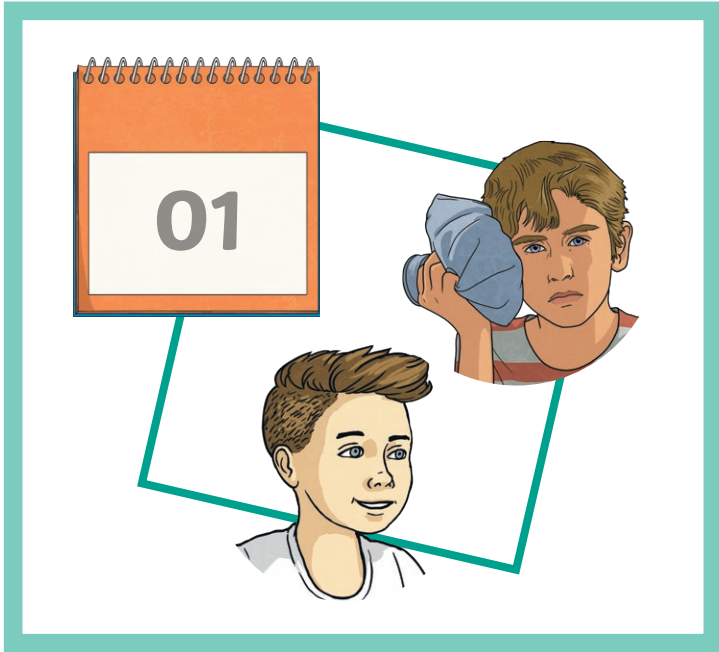
- **stunned**

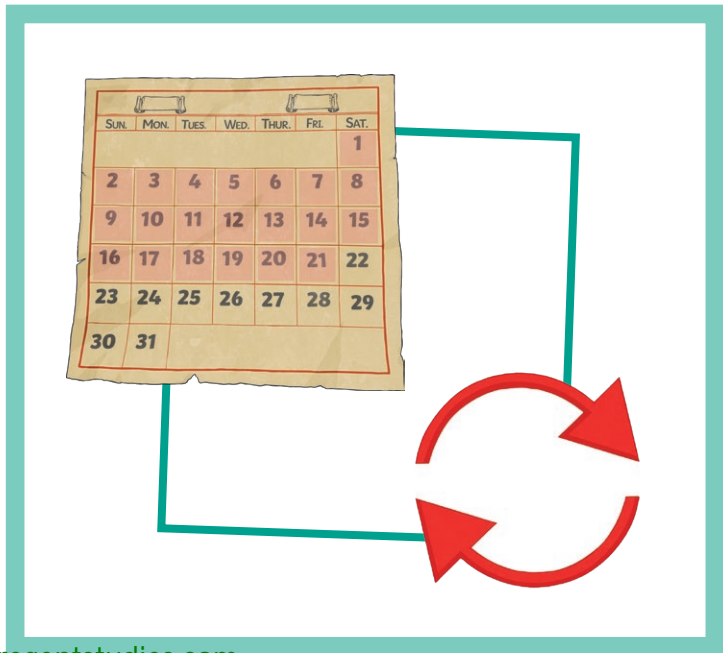
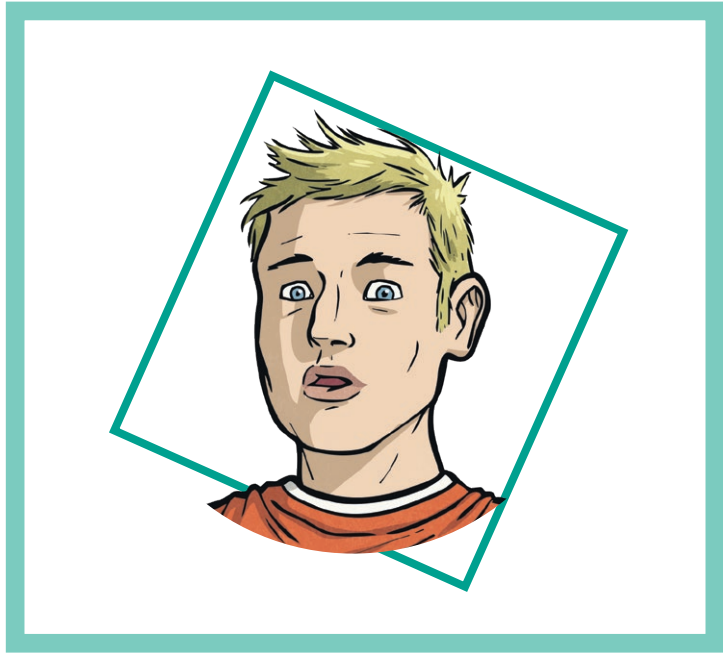
- **true story**
- **aunt**
- **isolated house**

- **cold**
- **wall**

- **aunt's room**
- **illness**

Cut out these pictures and put them into order. Then, see if you can tell your partner the story just by looking at the pictures.

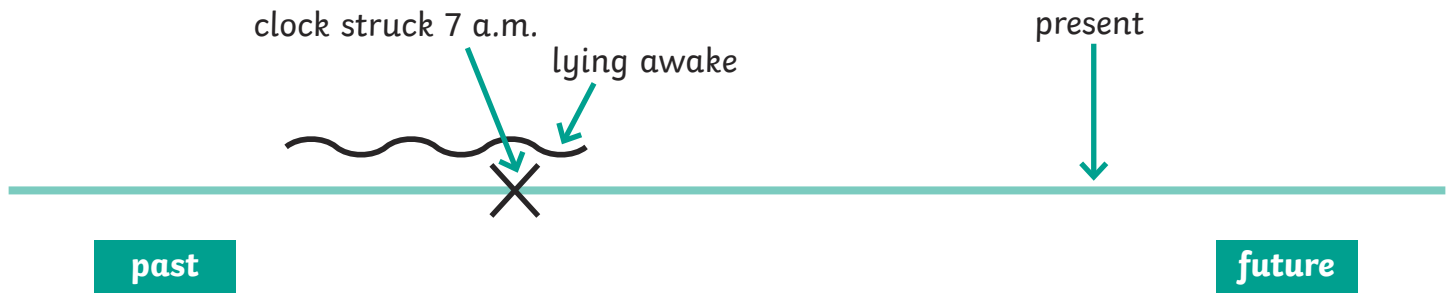




Using the Past Continuous

Make timelines showing these events. The first one is done for you.

I was still lying awake when the clock struck 7 a.m.



I ran into my aunt's room, but she was sleeping.

One night, I was doing the washing-up when I saw something move out of the corner of my eye.

Now, use your imagination to complete these sentences using the past simple or past continuous:

1. I was walking along the street when _____.
2. While _____, I heard a strange noise.
3. At 10 p.m. last night, _____.
4. We were watching TV when suddenly, _____.
5. I _____ when there was a knock at the door.
6. As I was doing my homework last night, _____.

What linking words do we use before the past simple?

What linking words do we use before the past continuous?



Finish this ghost story. Try to use the past continuous at least twice.

I grew up in a very small town. There were about two hundred people and nothing ever happened. It was so boring that we would ride around on our bikes until it was night time. My friends and I often used to go to a huge abandoned house on the edge of the town, to throw sticks through the windows or play games in the garden. One night, as I was passing the house by myself late at night, I noticed something strange. At the top of the house, a light was shining.

Check your work. Did you include any examples of the past continuous?