



## Theme: The Universe

Focus:	Grammar	Vocabulary	Comprehension	Writing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quantifiers</li> <li>The past continuous tense and simple past tense</li> </ul>	Things found in space	Answering questions based on a poem	Writing a story based on pictures using helping words

### Lesson Objectives

Students are able to

- use the simple past tense to talk about past events or actions,
- use the past continuous tense to talk about past events or actions that were going on at same point in time in the past,
- use the simple past tense and the past continuous tense in one sentence with connectors,
- answer questions based on a poem.

### Resources

*(Preparation to be done before the lesson)*

- Learning English Workbook 3
- A video cartoon of a space travel
- A piece of paper with questions that allow the students to answer in the simple past tense and the past continuous tense at the same time
- Visualizer projector
- A DVD 'Mickey Mouse Space Clubhouse Space Adventures'

### Introduction / Warm-up Activity (10 min)

- Tell the students that you are going to show them a video of a cartoon on space travel. Tell them the title of the cartoon and get them to predict what the story is about. Tell the students to pay attention to what is happening in the story as you will ask them questions about it after they have viewed it.
- After watching the video, discuss with the students what the characters did during their time in space. Make sure your questions when answered by the students are either in the simple past tense or in the past continuous tense. Have at least 5 such questions for the students to answer.

#### *Example:*

- Besides Greg, who else was in the spaceship?
- Paul and Keith were in the spaceship.
- What was Paul doing behind the spaceship?
- Paul was putting on his spacesuit.

Write the students' responses on the whiteboard.

### Lesson (20 min)

- Recapitulate with the students what the simple past tense and the past continuous tense are. Get them to give you examples of both the tenses. Using the sentences written on the whiteboard, let the students identify the simple past tense and the past continuous tense in them. Underline

the tenses and write in brackets next to the sentences whether they are in the simple past tense or the past continuous tense.

**Example:**

- Paul and Keith were in the spaceship. (simple past tense)
- Paul was putting on his spacesuit. (past continuous tense)

2. Next, show the students questions on the video on the visualizer projector. Ensure that the questions allow the students to use the simple past tense and the past continuous tense at the same time. Ensure that the questions asked contain the connectors 'when', 'while' and 'as'.

**Example:**

- What did Greg do when the red light on the spaceship kept flashing?
- What happened while Paul was putting on his spacesuit?
- What did Greg see on the planet as the spaceship was making its landing?

Get the students to answer in complete sentences. Write their answers on the whiteboard.

**Example:**

- Greg pulled the lever when the red light on the spaceship kept flashing.
- The spaceship jerked suddenly while Paul was putting on his spacesuit.
- Greg saw small craters on the planet as the spaceship was making its landing.

Point out to the students the past tense and the past continuous tense used together in the same sentence. Underline them. Elicit from the students why the past tense and past continuous tense are used. You may want to bring to their attention the use of 'did' in the questions which required the verbs in the answers to be in the past tense.

3. Next, underline the connectors used in the sentences on the whiteboard.

**Example:**

- Greg pulled the lever when the red light on the spaceship kept flashing.
- The spaceship jerked suddenly while Paul was putting on his spacesuit.
- Greg saw small craters on the planet as the spaceship was making its landing.

Tell the students that connectors 'when', 'while' and 'as' are used to join the two clauses together. Show the students the two clauses found in each of the sentences on the whiteboard. Explain to the students that the past continuous tense is used for the ongoing action while the simple past tense is used for the action that interrupted the ongoing action.

6. Provide more examples on the use of such sentences by getting the students involved in doing some class activities. You may want the students to pretend to be sleeping and then, you drop something on the floor. Elicit from the students a sentence using the past tense, past continuous tense and a connector. You may want to tell the students the connector. Write the sentences on the whiteboard.

**Example:**

- The children were sleeping when door slammed shut.

### **Additional Activities / Closure (15 min)**

1. Put the students in groups. Tell them that you will show them a piece of paper containing 5 questions on the visualizer projector. Each question has a verb in the simple past tense and in the continuous tense, and a connector. The students have to discuss among themselves how to construct an answer. Get each group to write their sentences on a piece of paper. Then, get them to share their sentences with the rest of the class.

2. Tell the students to turn to **pages 131 – 132 of Learning English Workbook 3**. Review the 'Read and Learn' section on **page 131**. Get the students to complete their work and hand it in to you. You may want to walk around the class to do a random check on the students' work.

### Homework

1. Ask the students to complete **pages 134 – 136** as homework. Go through the poem with the students. Explain to them any words or phrases that may be unfamiliar to them. Elicit answers from them for the questions. Get the students to explain how they derive their answers.
2. Students should either write their homework details in their student handbooks or fold the pages of their workbooks.

### Optional Activity

1. Let the students watch 'Mickey Mouse Clubhouse Space Adventures'. After watching it, get the students to write a summary about what happened during their adventure in outer space. Get the students to write the story in the past tense. Encourage them to use the past continuous tense as well. Then, tell them to write at least one sentence that has the simple past tense, past continuous tense and a connector in it.