Past Continuous:
Yes/No Questions & Short Answers

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. ___ you sleeping when I called?
   a) Were
   b) Are
   c) Did
   d) Was

2. ___ she working late last night?
   a) Was
   b) Were
   c) Did
   d) Is

3. ___ the children playing outside? — Yes, they ___.
   a) Are / are
   b) Were / were
   c) Did / did
   d) Was / was

4. ___ it raining when you left? — No, it ___.
   a) Were / weren't
   b) Was / wasn't
   c) Did / didn't
   d) Is / isn't

5. ___ he wearing a suit at the meeting?
   a) Is
   b) Was
   c) Were
   d) Did

6. ___ they waiting for us? — Yes, they ___.
   a) Was / was
   b) Are / are
   c) Did / did
   d) Were / were

7. ___ I talking too loudly? — No, you ___.
   a) Were / wasn't
   b) Was / weren't
   c) Am / aren't
   d) Did / didn't

8. ___ your parents living in London at that time?
   a) Were
   b) Was
   c) Did
   d) Are

9. ___ the dog barking all night? — Yes, it ___.
   a) Is / is
   b) Did / did
   c) Were / were
   d) Was / was

10. ___ we going too fast? — No, we ___.
    a) Were / weren't
    b) Are / aren't
    c) Was / wasn't
    d) Did / didn't

11. ___ the train running on time yesterday?
    a) Were
    b) Is
    c) Was
    d) Did

12. ___ you listening to me? — Yes, I ___.
    a) Are / am
    b) Were / was
    c) Was / were
    d) Did / did

13. ___ Sarah studying when you visited her?
    a) Were
    b) Was
    c) Is
    d) Did

14. ___ the kids making noise? — No, they ___.
    a) Was / wasn't
    b) Are / aren't
    c) Did / didn't
    d) Were / weren't

15. ___ anyone helping you with the project?
    a) Was
    b) Is
    c) Did
    d) Were

16. ___ Tom and Lisa arguing again? — Yes, they ___.
    a) Was / was
    b) Are / are
    c) Were / were
    d) Did / did

17. ___ the music playing too loud?
    a) Is
    b) Was
    c) Were
    d) Did

18. ___ I being rude? — No, you ___.
    a) Was / weren't
    b) Were / wasn't
    c) Am / aren't
    d) Did / didn't

19. ___ the team practicing when the coach arrived?
    a) Was
    b) Did
    c) Is
    d) Were

20. ___ everybody having a good time at the party? — Yes, everybody ___.
    a) Was / was
    b) Were / were
    c) Is / is
    d) Did / did

Answers

1. a) Were

2. a) Was

3. b) Were / were

4. b) Was / wasn't

5. b) Was

6. d) Were / were

7. b) Was / weren't

8. a) Were

9. d) Was / was

10. a) Were / weren't

11. c) Was

12. b) Were / was

13. b) Was

14. d) Were / weren't

15. a) Was

16. c) Were / were

17. b) Was

18. a) Was / weren't

19. a) Was

20. a) Was / was

Explanations

1. "Were" (a)
Use 'Were' to form questions with 'you'.

2. "Was" (a)
Use 'Was' to form questions with 'she'.

3. "Were / were" (b)
Use 'Were' for questions with plural subjects. Short answer: Yes, they were.

4. "Was / wasn't" (b)
Use 'Was' for 'it'. Negative short answer: No, it wasn't.

5. "Was" (b)
Use 'Was' to form questions with 'he'.

6. "Were / were" (d)
Use 'Were' for 'they'. Short answer: Yes, they were.

7. "Was / weren't" (b)
Use 'Was' for 'I'. Answer about 'you': No, you weren't.

8. "Were" (a)
Use 'Were' for plural subjects like 'your parents' (= they).

9. "Was / was" (d)
Use 'Was' for singular subjects. Short answer: Yes, it was.

10. "Were / weren't" (a)
Use 'Were' for 'we'. Negative short answer: No, we weren't.

11. "Was" (c)
Use 'Was' for singular subjects like 'the train' (= it).

12. "Were / was" (b)
Question with 'you' uses 'Were'. Answer about 'I' uses 'was'.

13. "Was" (b)
Use 'Was' to form questions with 'Sarah' (= she).

14. "Were / weren't" (d)
Use 'Were' for 'the kids' (= they). Negative: No, they weren't.

15. "Was" (a)
Use 'Was' with 'anyone' (grammatically singular).

16. "Were / were" (c)
Use 'Were' for compound subjects like 'Tom and Lisa' (= they).

17. "Was" (b)
Use 'Was' for 'the music' (= it).

18. "Was / weren't" (a)

Use 'Was' for 'I'. Answer about 'you': No, you weren't.

19. "Was" (a)

Use 'Was' for collective nouns like 'the team' (British English may use 'Were').

20. "Was / was" (a)

Use 'Was' with 'everybody' (grammatically singular).