

# When . . .

## When I went out, it was raining.

This sentence has two parts:

**when I went out** + **it was raining**

You can say:

- **When I went out**, it was raining. or  
**It was raining** when I went out.

We write a comma (,) if **When . . .** is at the beginning:

- { **When** you're tired, don't drive.  
Don't drive **when** you're tired.
- { Helen was 25 **when** she got married.  
**When** Helen got married, she was 25.



We do the same in sentences with **before/while/after**:

- { Always look both ways **before** you cross the street.  
**Before** you cross the street, always look both ways.
- { **While** I was waiting for the bus, it began to rain.  
It began to rain **while** I was waiting for the bus.
- { He never played football again **after** he broke his leg.  
**After** he broke his leg, he never played football again.

## When I am . . . / When I go . . . , etc.

Next week Sarah is going to New York. She has a friend, Lisa, who lives in New York, but Lisa is also going away – to Mexico. So they won't see each other in New York.

Lisa **will be** in Mexico **when** Sarah **is** in New York.

The time is *future* (**next week**), but we say:  
. . . **when** Sarah **is** in New York.  
(*not* when Sarah **will be**)



We use the *present* (**I am** / **I go**, etc.) with a *future meaning* after **when**:

- **When I get** home tonight, I'm going to take a shower. (*not* When I will get home)
- I can't talk to you now. I'll talk to you later **when I have** more time.

We do the same after **before/while/after/until**:

- Please close the window **before** you **go** out. (*not* before you will go)
- Rachel is going to stay in our apartment **while** we **are** away. (*not* while we will be)
- I'll wait here **until** you **come** back. (*not* until you will come back)

## 99.1 Write sentences beginning with *When*. Choose from the boxes.

<b>When +</b>	<del>I went out</del>	+	I turned off the TV
	I'm tired		I always go to the same place
	I called her		there were no rooms
	I go on vacation		<del>it was raining</del>
	the program ended		there was no answer
	I got to the hotel		I like to watch TV

1. When I went out, it was raining.
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

## 99.2 Complete the sentences using the following:

somebody broke into the house	before they came here	when they heard the news
<del>before they crossed the street</del>	while they were away	they didn't believe me
they went to live in France		

1. They looked both ways before they crossed the street.
2. They were very surprised \_\_\_\_\_
3. After they got married, \_\_\_\_\_
4. Their house was damaged in a storm \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where did they live \_\_\_\_\_?
6. While we were asleep, \_\_\_\_\_
7. When I told them what happened, \_\_\_\_\_

## 99.3 Which is right?

1. ~~I stay~~ / I'll stay here until you come / ~~you'll come~~ back. (*I'll stay* and *you come* are right)
2. I'm going to bed when I finish / I'll finish my work.
3. We must do something before it's / it will be too late.
4. Helen is moving away soon. I'm / I'll be very sad when she leaves / she'll leave.
5. Don't go out yet. Wait until the rain stops / will stop.
6. We come / We'll come and visit you when we're / we'll be in Toronto again.
7. When I come / I'll come to see you tomorrow, I bring / I'll bring your DVDs.
8. I'm going to Quebec next week. I hope to see some friends of mine while I'm / I'll be there.
9. "I need your address." "OK, I give / I'll give it to you before I go / I'll go."
10. I'm not ready yet. I tell / I'll tell you when I'm / I'll be ready.

## 99.4 Use your own ideas to complete these sentences.

1. Can you close the window before you go out \_\_\_\_\_?
2. What are you going to do when \_\_\_\_\_?
3. When I have enough money, \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I'll wait for you while \_\_\_\_\_.
5. When I start my new job, \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Will you be here when \_\_\_\_\_?