# During, while and for

## The word after the gap tells you whether you need a noun phrase or a clause.

Choose **during** before a noun phrase and **while** before a subject and verb.

**Worked example**

We stayed inside **during** the storm.

**Complete each gap with during or while.**

**01.** Leí una novela durante el vuelo.
I read a novel _____ the flight.

**02.** Leí una novela durante el trayecto en tren.
I read a novel _____ the train journey.

**03.** Leí una novela durante el viaje en autobús.
I read a novel _____ the bus ride.

**04.** Leí una novela durante la travesía en barco.
I read a novel _____ the boat trip.

**05.** El público guardó silencio durante la actuación.
The audience was quiet _____ the performance.

**06.** El público guardó silencio durante el discurso.
The audience was quiet _____ the speech.

**07.** El público guardó silencio durante la escena final.
The audience was quiet _____ the final scene.

**08.** El público guardó silencio durante el minuto de silencio.
The audience was quiet _____ the minute of silence.

**09.** La luz parpadeó durante la tormenta.
The light flickered _____ the storm.

**10.** La luz parpadeó durante el apagón.
The light flickered _____ the power cut.

**11.** La luz parpadeó durante la prueba.
The light flickered _____ the test.

**12.** La luz parpadeó durante la reparación.
The light flickered _____ the repair.

**13.** Revisamos el itinerario durante la escala.
We checked the itinerary _____ the stopover.

**14.** Revisamos el itinerario durante la pausa para comer.
We checked the itinerary _____ the lunch break.

**15.** Revisamos el itinerario durante la espera.
We checked the itinerary _____ the wait.

**16.** Revisamos el itinerario durante el trayecto.
We checked the itinerary _____ the journey.

**17.** El guía señaló varios edificios durante el paseo por el casco antiguo.
The guide pointed out several buildings _____ the walk through the old town.

**18.** El guía señaló varios edificios durante la subida por la colina.
The guide pointed out several buildings _____ the climb up the hill.

**19.** El guía señaló varios edificios durante el cruce de la plaza.
The guide pointed out several buildings _____ the crossing of the square.

**20.** El guía señaló varios edificios durante el regreso al hotel.
The guide pointed out several buildings _____ the walk back to the hotel.

## During or while

**Continue. Complete only the gap in English.**

**21.** Me empezó a doler la cabeza mientras trabajaba con el ordenador.
I started to get a headache _____ I was working at the computer.

**22.** Me empezó a doler la cabeza mientras leía en el tren.
I started to get a headache _____ I was reading on the train.

**23.** Me empezó a doler la cabeza mientras esperaba en la cola.
I started to get a headache _____ I was waiting in the queue.

**24.** Me empezó a doler la cabeza mientras hablaba por teléfono.
I started to get a headache _____ I was talking on the phone.

**25.** El ascensor se detuvo mientras subíamos a la sexta planta.
The lift stopped _____ we were going up to the sixth floor.

**26.** El ascensor se detuvo mientras bajaba al vestíbulo.
The lift stopped _____ it was coming down to the lobby.

**27.** El ascensor se detuvo mientras entraban los pasajeros.
The lift stopped _____ the passengers were getting in.

**28.** El ascensor se detuvo mientras el técnico lo revisaba.
The lift stopped _____ the technician was checking it.

**29.** El repartidor llamó al timbre mientras me duchaba.
The delivery driver rang the doorbell _____ I was having a shower.

**30.** El repartidor llamó al timbre mientras preparábamos la comida.
The delivery driver rang the doorbell _____ we were making lunch.

**31.** El repartidor llamó al timbre mientras hablaba con mi hermana.
The delivery driver rang the doorbell _____ I was talking to my sister.

**32.** El repartidor llamó al timbre mientras poníamos la mesa.
The delivery driver rang the doorbell _____ we were setting the table.

**33.** Se oyó un ruido extraño mientras cruzábamos el puente.
We heard a strange noise _____ we were crossing the bridge.

**34.** Se oyó un ruido extraño mientras esperábamos fuera.
We heard a strange noise _____ we were waiting outside.

**35.** Se oyó un ruido extraño mientras se apagaban las luces.
We heard a strange noise _____ the lights were going out.

**36.** Se oyó un ruido extraño mientras cerraban la tienda.
We heard a strange noise _____ the shop was closing.

**37.** La pantalla se quedó en blanco mientras guardaba el documento.
The screen went blank _____ I was saving the document.

**38.** La pantalla se quedó en blanco mientras iniciábamos sesión.
The screen went blank _____ we were signing in.

**39.** La pantalla se quedó en blanco mientras el programa se actualizaba.
The screen went blank _____ the program was updating.

**40.** La pantalla se quedó en blanco mientras compartía mi presentación.
The screen went blank _____ I was sharing my presentation.

## Answer key

Complete sentences. The word that completes the gap is in bold.

**01.** I read a novel **during** the flight.
**02.** I read a novel **during** the train journey.
**03.** I read a novel **during** the bus ride.
**04.** I read a novel **during** the boat trip.
**05.** The audience was quiet **during** the performance.
**06.** The audience was quiet **during** the speech.
**07.** The audience was quiet **during** the final scene.
**08.** The audience was quiet **during** the minute of silence.
**09.** The light flickered **during** the storm.
**10.** The light flickered **during** the power cut.
**11.** The light flickered **during** the test.
**12.** The light flickered **during** the repair.
**13.** We checked the itinerary **during** the stopover.
**14.** We checked the itinerary **during** the lunch break.
**15.** We checked the itinerary **during** the wait.
**16.** We checked the itinerary **during** the journey.
**17.** The guide pointed out several buildings **during** the walk through the old town.
**18.** The guide pointed out several buildings **during** the climb up the hill.
**19.** The guide pointed out several buildings **during** the crossing of the square.
**20.** The guide pointed out several buildings **during** the walk back to the hotel.
**21.** I started to get a headache **while** I was working at the computer.
**22.** I started to get a headache **while** I was reading on the train.
**23.** I started to get a headache **while** I was waiting in the queue.
**24.** I started to get a headache **while** I was talking on the phone.
**25.** The lift stopped **while** we were going up to the sixth floor.
**26.** The lift stopped **while** it was coming down to the lobby.
**27.** The lift stopped **while** the passengers were getting in.
**28.** The lift stopped **while** the technician was checking it.
**29.** The delivery driver rang the doorbell **while** I was having a shower.
**30.** The delivery driver rang the doorbell **while** we were making lunch.
**31.** The delivery driver rang the doorbell **while** I was talking to my sister.
**32.** The delivery driver rang the doorbell **while** we were setting the table.
**33.** We heard a strange noise **while** we were crossing the bridge.
**34.** We heard a strange noise **while** we were waiting outside.
**35.** We heard a strange noise **while** the lights were going out.
**36.** We heard a strange noise **while** the shop was closing.
**37.** The screen went blank **while** I was saving the document.
**38.** The screen went blank **while** we were signing in.
**39.** The screen went blank **while** the program was updating.
**40.** The screen went blank **while** I was sharing my presentation.