During, while and for

Check whether the gap is followed by an event, a clause or a length of time.

Choose **during**, **while** or **for** according to the structure and meaning.

Worked example

We found a quiet café **while** we were walking.

Complete each gap with the correct word.

01. Me di cuenta de que había dejado la cartera en casa mientras subía al autobús.
I realised I had left my wallet at home _____ I was getting on the bus.

02. Me di cuenta de que había dejado la cartera en casa mientras pagaba el billete.
I realised I had left my wallet at home _____ I was paying for the ticket.

03. Me di cuenta de que había dejado la cartera en casa mientras buscaba mi tarjeta.
I realised I had left my wallet at home _____ I was looking for my card.

04. Me di cuenta de que había dejado la cartera en casa mientras llegaba a la estación.
I realised I had left my wallet at home _____ I was arriving at the station.

05. El niño se hizo un rasguño en la rodilla mientras corría por el parque.
The child scratched his knee _____ he was running in the park.

06. El niño se hizo un rasguño en la rodilla mientras jugaba al fútbol.
The child scratched his knee _____ he was playing football.

07. El niño se hizo un rasguño en la rodilla mientras aprendía a patinar.
The child scratched his knee _____ he was learning to skate.

08. El niño se hizo un rasguño en la rodilla mientras subía a la bicicleta.
The child scratched his knee _____ he was getting on his bike.

09. La guía repartió un mapa durante la visita.
The guide handed out a map _____ the tour.

10. La guía repartió un mapa durante la excursión.
The guide handed out a map _____ the hike.

11. La guía repartió un mapa durante la bienvenida.
The guide handed out a map _____ the welcome talk.

12. La guía repartió un mapa durante el recorrido.
The guide handed out a map _____ the walk.

13. No se permitía hacer fotos durante la función.
Taking photos was not allowed _____ the performance.

14. No se permitía hacer fotos durante la ceremonia.
Taking photos was not allowed _____ the ceremony.

15. No se permitía hacer fotos durante la presentación.
Taking photos was not allowed _____ the presentation.

16. No se permitía hacer fotos durante la visita a la exposición.
Taking photos was not allowed _____ the visit to the exhibition.

17. La panadería estuvo cerrada una mañana.
The bakery was closed _____ one morning.

18. La panadería estuvo cerrada dos días.
The bakery was closed _____ two days.

19. La panadería estuvo cerrada una semana.
The bakery was closed _____ a week.

20. La panadería estuvo cerrada varias horas.
The bakery was closed _____ several hours.

Mixed practice

Continue. Complete only the gap in English.

21. El equipo practicó los movimientos media hora.
The team practised the moves _____ half an hour.

22. El equipo practicó los movimientos una hora.
The team practised the moves _____ an hour.

23. El equipo practicó los movimientos dos horas.
The team practised the moves _____ two hours.

24. El equipo practicó los movimientos toda la tarde.
The team practised the moves _____ the whole afternoon.

25. El bebé durmió durante el vuelo.
The baby slept _____ the flight.

26. El bebé durmió durante el trayecto en coche.
The baby slept _____ the car journey.

27. El bebé durmió durante la visita.
The baby slept _____ the visit.

28. El bebé durmió durante la película.
The baby slept _____ the film.

29. La pantalla se oscureció mientras veíamos el partido.
The screen went dark _____ we were watching the match.

30. La pantalla se oscureció mientras cargaba el archivo.
The screen went dark _____ I was uploading the file.

31. La pantalla se oscureció mientras actualizaban el sistema.
The screen went dark _____ they were updating the system.

32. La pantalla se oscureció mientras compartíamos el vídeo.
The screen went dark _____ we were sharing the video.

33. El taller estuvo lleno de visitantes una hora.
The workshop was full of visitors _____ an hour.

34. El taller estuvo lleno de visitantes toda la mañana.
The workshop was full of visitors _____ the whole morning.

35. El taller estuvo lleno de visitantes todo el fin de semana.
The workshop was full of visitors _____ the whole weekend.

36. El taller estuvo lleno de visitantes tres días.
The workshop was full of visitors _____ three days.

37. Se anunció un cambio de horario durante el trayecto.
A timetable change was announced _____ the journey.

38. Se anunció un cambio de horario durante la espera.
A timetable change was announced _____ the wait.

39. Se anunció un cambio de horario durante la reunión informativa.
A timetable change was announced _____ the briefing.

40. Se anunció un cambio de horario durante el viaje de vuelta.
A timetable change was announced _____ the return trip.

Answer key

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

01. I realised I had left my wallet at home **while** I was getting on the bus.
02. I realised I had left my wallet at home **while** I was paying for the ticket.
03. I realised I had left my wallet at home **while** I was looking for my card.
04. I realised I had left my wallet at home **while** I was arriving at the station.
05. The child scratched his knee **while** he was running in the park.
06. The child scratched his knee **while** he was playing football.
07. The child scratched his knee **while** he was learning to skate.
08. The child scratched his knee **while** he was getting on his bike.
09. The guide handed out a map **during** the tour.
10. The guide handed out a map **during** the hike.
11. The guide handed out a map **during** the welcome talk.
12. The guide handed out a map **during** the walk.
13. Taking photos was not allowed **during** the performance.
14. Taking photos was not allowed **during** the ceremony.
15. Taking photos was not allowed **during** the presentation.
16. Taking photos was not allowed **during** the visit to the exhibition.
17. The bakery was closed **for** one morning.
18. The bakery was closed **for** two days.
19. The bakery was closed **for** a week.
20. The bakery was closed **for** several hours.
21. The team practised the moves **for** half an hour.
22. The team practised the moves **for** an hour.
23. The team practised the moves **for** two hours.
24. The team practised the moves **for** the whole afternoon.
25. The baby slept **during** the flight.
26. The baby slept **during** the car journey.
27. The baby slept **during** the visit.
28. The baby slept **during** the film.
29. The screen went dark **while** we were watching the match.
30. The screen went dark **while** I was uploading the file.
31. The screen went dark **while** they were updating the system.
32. The screen went dark **while** we were sharing the video.
33. The workshop was full of visitors **for** an hour.
34. The workshop was full of visitors **for** the whole morning.
35. The workshop was full of visitors **for** the whole weekend.
36. The workshop was full of visitors **for** three days.
37. A timetable change was announced **during** the journey.
38. A timetable change was announced **during** the wait.
39. A timetable change was announced **during** the briefing.
40. A timetable change was announced **during** the return trip.