

Kee

Hi! This is Kee from BBC Learning English, and today, I'm going to tell you the differences between **while** and **during**.

We can use **while** and **during** to say that a shorter event happened within a longer event. They mean the same, but the grammar's different.

After **while**, we have a clause. A clause is a group of words containing a subject and a verb. So we can say: **While I was having lunch, my phone rang**. Remember that the verb in the while clause is usually in an ING form.

We can also use while with just an ING form. So we can say: **While having lunch, my phone rang**. So we remove the subject and the 'be' verb.

However, **during** is different because it can only be used with a noun phrase. So we can say: **During lunch, my phone rang**. We cannot use a clause or just the ING form.

So, same meaning, but different grammar!