

Verbs – to be

Present	am, is, are
Past	was, were
Future	will, shall

Past continuous tense (progressive / imperfect)

- sentences
- negative sentences
- questions

Subject	singular	Plural
First person	I	We
Second person	You	You
Third person	He, She, It, Name (ex: Sam)	They

The past continuous tense refers to a continuing action or state that was happening at some point in the past.



-We use the past continuous tense when we want to talk about an action that was happening over a period of time in the past.

Examples:

I was reading my book last night.

He was driving when we saw him.



Positive Form

(work)

I + was + V-ing (working)

he/she/it + was + V-ing (working)

you/we/they + were + V-ing (working)

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We were waiting for you.

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I was working when you had
the car accident.

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She was studying while He
was playing video games.

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They were planning a party.

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Answer questions with past continuous tense.

Grammar tips:

To form the past continuous tense: I/She/He/It was verb+ing

You/We/They were verb+ing

1. Maria her money when the telephone rang.

2. It heavily at a quarter to seven this morning.

3. As we into the bank, I saw a wallet on the floor.

4. While the farmer the monkeys stole their hats.

5. Isa and I our budget when Ani came into the room.

6. The fishermen their nets at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

7. I my clothes when my mother came into house.

8. Janaki and her brother chicken rice last Sunday.

PAST CONTINUOUS

Complete the sentences with the verb in brackets

- 1.-Alice with her brother at home. (play)
- 2.-Patrick and you lunch at the restaurant. (have)
- 3.-Martha the school festival last Monday . (organize)
- 4.-Ulises his dog for a walk in the park. (take)
- 5.-Janine a lot of invitations for the wedding. (send)
- 6.-Victor some new shoes. (buy)
- 7.-Olivia her hair in the bathroom. (comb)
- 8.-The secretary to some pop music. (listen)
- 9.-A few cats under the old boxes. (hide)
- 10.-Walter his flat slowly. (clean)
- 11.-You television at the pub. (watch)
- 12.-The children some pictures on the wall. (paint)
- 13.-A gardener the vegetables in the orchard. (water)
- 14.-Dad a lot of money this month. (earn)
- 15.-Two girls their bikes. (ride)
- 16.-Harry and John their homework at the library. (do)
- 17.-My teachers to Helga's parents. (talk)
- 18.-Your daughter correctly. (behave)
- 19.- The postman my door bell. (ring)
- 20.- Daniela the Maths exam. (study)



a) Sentences – past continuous

Subject	to be + verb+ing	+ object
I, He, She, It, Sam (Name)	was playing	football
You, We, They	were playing	football

Example:

- i) I **was playing** football.
- ii) You **were playing** football.
- iii) We **were playing** football.
- iv) They **were playing** football.
- v) He **was playing** football.
- vi) She **was playing** football.
- vii) It **was playing** football.
- viii) Sam **was playing** football.

Negative Form

I

was not (wasn't)

+

V-ing

he/she/it

was not (wasn't)

+

V-ing

you/we/they

were not (weren't)

+

V-ing



James wasn't talking to me.

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Tom wasn't sleeping when
you called him.

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b) Negative sentences – past continuous

Subject	to be + not + verb+ing	+ object
I, He, She, It, Sam (Name)	was not (wasn't) going	to school
You, We, They	were not (weren't) going	to school

Example :

i) I was going to school.	ii) I was not going to school.
ii) You were going to school.	ii) You were not going to school.
iii) We were going to school.	iii) We were not going to school.
iv) They were going to school.	iv) They were not going to school.
v) He was going to school.	v) He was not going to school.
vi) She was going to school.	vi) She was not going to school.
vii) It was going to school.	vii) It was not going to school.
viii) Sam was going to school.	viii) Sam was not going to school.

Past continuous tense

Write each verb in past continuous tense

11. Mrs Priya _____ (not walk) in the garden.

12. Tarun _____ (not work) in his study when the murder happened.

13. Banu _____ (not talk to Renu.

14. You _____ (not play) cards.

15. Gopu and Somu _____ (not eat) in the dining room.

Past continuous tense

Write each verb in past continuous tense

16. Dr. Ram _____ (not read) the books.

17. David _____ (not drink) coffee in the library.

18. The maid _____ (not clean) the bedroom.

19. I _____ (not listen) to music.

20. The dogs _____ (not play) outside.

Interrogative Form

(Wh) was + I + V-ing?

(Wh) was + he/she/it + V-ing?

were + you/we/they + V-ing?



c) Questions – past continuous

To be + subject	verb+ing	+ object
Was I, Was he, Was she, Was it, Was Sam (Name)	singing	song
Were you, Were we, Were they	Singing	song

Example :

i) I was singing a song.	i) Was I singing a song?
ii) You were singing a song.	ii) Were you singing a song?
iii) We were singing a song.	iii) Were we singing a song?
iv) They were singing a song.	iv) Were they singing a song?
v) He was singing a song.	v) Was he singing a song?
vi) She was singing a song.	vi) Was she singing a song?
vii) It was singing a song.	vii) Was it singing a song?
viii) Sam was singing a song.	viii) Was Sam singing a song?

What were they doing yesterday?

Look at the pictures and answer the questions

1  (have an exam)	What was he doing yesterday?
	He <i>was having</i> an exam at 2:55 yesterday.
2  (play football)	What were they doing at the weekend?
3  (watch TV)	What was he doing last night?
4  (eat a hotdog)	What was he eating yesterday?
5  (camp in the forest)	What were they doing last weekend?
6  (do homework)	What was he doing last night?
7  (plant a tree)	What were they doing last weekend?
8  (ride a bike in the park)	What was she doing yesterday?