Past Continuous

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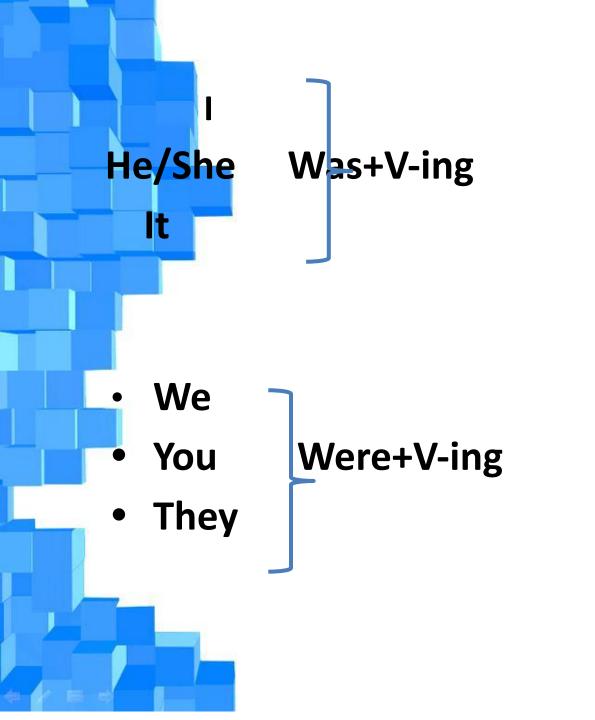
Definition

The past continuous tense is a tense which describes continuous events that happened in the past.

- It was raining yesterday.
- Last night at 6 PM, I was eating dinner.

FORM

Subject	was/were	base + ing							
They	were	watching							
Affirmative									
She	was	reading							
Negative									
She	wasn't	reading							
Interrogative									
Was	she	reading?							
Interrogative negative									
Wasn't	she	reading?							



I was camping when I got stung by a bee

While we were having the picnic, it started to rain.

YES/NO QUESTIONS

Short Answers

Short Answers

you

they

(weren't

Base

For of

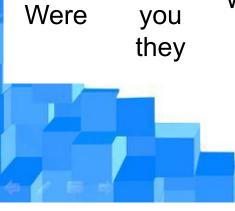
g?

Tense of Be	t	Verb + Ing	Affirmative		Negative			
Was	I he she it	workin g?	Yes.	I he she it	was	No.	l he she it	was not (wasn't)
Moro	we	workin		we			we	were not

you

they

were



Past

Subjec

Use

The past continuous tense is most often used for actions happening at some time in the past.

- Sorry, I wasn't listening. Can you say it again please?
- What were you doing at 8 o'clock yesterday?

Interrupted Action in the Past

The past continuous is very often used with the past simple to say that something happened in the middle of something else.

- You phoned while I was having a bath.
- What were you doing when the lights went off last night?

Parallel Actions

When you use the Past Continuous with two actions in the same sentence, it expresses the idea that both actions were happening at the same time. The actions are parallel.

- I was studying while she was making dinner.
- Thomas wasn't working, and I wasn't working either.

More uses

to express a change of mind:

"I was going to spend the day at the beach but I've decided to get my homework done instead"

with 'wonder', to make a polite request:

"I was wondering if you could baby-sit for me tonight."

TIME EXPRESSIONS COMMONLY USED WITH THE PAST CONTINUOUS:

As we were playing, it started to rain.

While we were playing, it started to snow.

This time yesterday we were playing basketball.

All last night they were traveling through Anatolia.

We were having dinner **between** seven **and** eight **yesterday evening**.

It was raining at noon yesterday.

I was not visiting the museum at ten yesterday. I was visiting the castle then.

NOTE: While/as can be used with Simple Past tense.

As/while he shaved he thought about the coming interview.



THANK YOU for your ATTENTION!