



Past Continuous

Examples, Formula & Usage



Past continuous or past progressive tense is used to describe the past action that has not finished.

FORMULA

AFFIRMATIVE SENTENCES

Subject + was/were + present participle + object

EXAMPLES

- They **were doing** useful work.
- He **was driving** to work yesterday.

NEGATIVE SENTENCES

Subject + was/were + not + present participle + object

EXAMPLES

- They **were not doing** useful work.
- He **was not driving** to work yesterday.

INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES (QUESTIONS)

Was/were + subject + present participle + object + ?

EXAMPLES

- **Were** they **doing** useful work?
- **Was** he **driving** to work yesterday?

Usage	Example
To show an action that was in progress at some specific time in past.	We were having lunch at 02:00 pm yesterday.
To describe the ongoing action when another action started	I was driving car when she called me.
To describe two or more ongoing actions in the past.	He was drinking the tea while he was watching TV.
To describe the specific situation.	When I entered the house, the chef was cooking the meal and kids were watching cartoons.

y + ing = ying



play = playing
fly = flying
study = studying

e = e + ing



dance = dancing
fake = faking
rhyme = rhyming

ee + ing = eeing



see = seeing
flee = fleeing
agree = agreeing

ie = ie + ying



die = dying
lie = lying
tie = tying

c/v/c* = double final c + ing



run = running
put = putting
stop = stopping

Past simple

➔ an action that happened at a definite time in the past
Last year we bought a dog.

➔ actions that happened immediately one after the other in the past

Lou took a shower, brushed his teeth and went to bed.



Past continuous

➔ an action that was in progress at a stated time in the past
Yesterday at 4 I was talking to Meg on the phone.

➔ two actions that were happening at the same time
Liz was vacuuming while her sons were tidying their room.

➔ an action that was in progress (longer action) when another action interrupted it
When I came in, Sue was reading.



Past Simple and Past Continuous



Choose the correct verb form: Past Simple or Past Continuous in each of the following sentences based on grammar rules.

- 1) Mary **prepared** / **was preparing** lunch when they **came** / **was coming**.
- 2) Tom was very unlucky. It **rained** / **was raining** every day during his holidays.
- 3) Who was that nice girl you **talked** / **were talking** to when I **walked** / **was walking** by the pub?
- 4) Last weekend Susan **fell** / **was falling** and **broke** / **was breaking** her leg.
- 5) When I **entered** / **was entering** the cafeteria Mary **had** / **was having** lunch with Peter.
- 6) We **drove** / **were driving** to Berlin in Robert's new car yesterday night.
- 7) The sun **shone** / **was shining** brightly when I **got up** / **was getting up** this morning.
- 8) Ann finally **told** / **was telling** us the whole story about Peter.



LISTENING EXERCISES



Listen to the audio "Young doctor vs. old doctor" and choose the correct answer according to the information provided.

more enthusiastic

are relaxing

would go to the
doctor more

wouldn't understand
new techniques

more experience

Would be close in
age

1-Why would Martin trust
and old doctor?



2-Why would Mitchell
want a female doctor?



3- Ruth thinks younger
doctors _____.



4- Shuan thinks an old
doctor _____.



5- Simon thinks a new
doctor would be _____.



6- Why does Tom want
a younger doctor?





Listen to the audio “what makes a good teacher?” and choose the correct answer according to the information provided. There are 2 answers in most of the statements.

1) Cheryl thinks good teachers are good at ____ .

☐

Listening

☐

Explaining

☐

managing

2) Ray thinks good teachers are ____ .

☐

Experts

☐

able to understand students

☐

good entertainers

3) Demelza thinks good teachers are ____ .

☐

fun

☐

good at explaining

☐

strict

4) Jeff thinks good teachers ____ .

☐

love teaching

☐

are good listeners

☐

are patient

5) Nydja thinks good teachers ____ .

☐

are open-minded

☐

are challenging

☐

are knowledgeable

6) Hoa thinks good teachers ____ .

☐

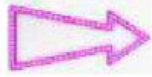
are convincing

☐

are strict

☐

are dedicated



Listen to the audio "The Courage TO BE WHO SHE IS". Then, number the information in the order it appears.



WAYS IN WHICH THEY HELPED MATLIN

Her parents



helped her not to be embarrassed when people asked why she pronounce words differently.

Her school



Helped her discovered her love of acting.

Her brother



helped her with her acting career.

Her summer camp



Told her just to be herself and not listen to criticism.

Henry Winkler



taught her sign language and encouraged her to speak, too.

Whoopi Goldberg



enrolled her in a school with both hearing and deaf children, they sent her to a camp to learn sign language





Listen to the audio "Students". Then drag word (s) or phrases and drop them below to the corresponding blank space.

passion

stand out

hung up

volunteer

keen interest

make mistakes

1) Nydja says students need _____.

2) Jeff says you need to _____.

3) Demelza says students get _____.

4) Ray says students should _____.

5) 5) Hoa thinks students should _____.

6) Mauro says students need _____.

VOCABULARY FROM AUDIO "STUDENTS"



FILL THE SENTENCES OUT USING VOCABULARY WORD (S) FROM THE BOX IN BLANKS CORRECTLY.

keen stick to sit back hung up
trial and error

1. If you _____ your goals, you will eventually achieve them.
2. I keep getting _____ on how to do this. Please help me.
3. Poor students like to just _____ and not try anything.
4. She has a _____ interest in history.
5. I learned how to do web design by _____.



Speaking Exercise

1-Sp makes research about a famous person from any country as an actress, actor, businessman, singer, writer, activist, politician. Make an oral following these steps:

- 1- Name of the person and country.
- 2- Explain obstacles this person faced.
- 3- How did she or he deal with these obstacles.
- 4- In which ways this person overcame his or her obstacles.
- 5- Why this person is a role model to you?
- 6- And explain why that specific person inspires you?

Note: Audio must include grammar and vocabulary of the week and must be 1 ½ long.