

Past continuous

We use the past continuous to talk about activities in progress in the past, and to describe a scene in the past.

I was studying for an exam at nine o'clock last night.

It was a lovely spring day and the sun was shining. People were walking along the river and eating ice creams.

The police officers were chasing the thief.

They weren't talking on the phone.

The thief wasn't wearing a blue coat.

Were you watching a film? Yes, I was.

Was it raining? No, it wasn't.

Grammar reference page 118

1 Josh and Rosa were in town on Saturday morning. Complete Josh's description with the correct form of the past continuous.

- Rosa and I _____ coffee at a café. (have)
- We _____ T – shirts and shorts. (wear)
- I _____ postcards to my family (write)
- Rosa _____ photos with her mobile (take)
- Some birds _____ crumbs under my chair. (eat)

3  Write what you think these people were doing yesterday at midday. Use your imagination. Then compare your ideas with the class.

1 Angela, a journalist

I think Angela was interviewing a witness.

2 Max, a student

3 Chloe, a teacher

4 Snoopy, a dog

5 Jules, an actor

6 Matilda, a zoo keeper