# PAST SIMPLE VS. PAST CONTINUOUS

# ENGLISH ACTIVITIES

A.B.P.P.

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| **SKILL** | Demonstrate mindfulness and empathy for the integrity of cultures in daily classroom activities. **EFL 5.1.2** |

**WEEKLY OBJECTIVE:** At the end of this lesson students will be able to contrast ideas in simple past tense and past progressive in context according to their level.

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| **TOPIC:** | **PAST SIMPLE VS. PAST CONTINUOUS** |

**ANTICIPATION**

**PAST SIMPLE VS. PAST PROGRESSIVE**

**A. Look at the video and analyze the information:**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLj-Dbz-CWk

## Simple Past vs. Past Continuous

### Simple Past

We use the **simple past** to talk about:

**Completed** actions, **habits** and **facts** in the past.

- I **went** to the cinema **yesterday.**
- I **always visited** my grandparents in my summer holidays **when** I **was little.**
- I **lived** near Liverpool for a couple of years.

### Past Continuous

The **past continuous** is used to express:

**Interrupted** actions, **specific time** as an **interruption** and **parallel** actions.

- I **was watching** TV **when** the phone rang.
- **Last night at 7pm, I was having** dinner.

**While** she **was doing** her homework her brother **was playing** football.

**'when' + short action** (past simple tense)
**'while' + long action** (past continuous tense)

I **was watching** TV when Jim ***knocked*** the door.

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|---|---|---|---|
| | I **was watching** TV | **when** | Jim ***knocked*** the door. |
| **When** | Jim ***knocked*** the door | , | I **was watching** TV |
| | Jim ***knocked*** the door | **while** | I **was watching** TV |
| **While** | I **was watching** TV | , | Jim ***knocked*** the door |

LIVEWORKSHEETS

CONSTRUCTION

# PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE

**+** S + was/were + V-ing
She was cooking all morning.

**−** S + was/were + not + V-ing
She was not sleeping when he came home.

**?** Was/were + S + V-ing?
Was she sleeping when he came home?

## Past Simple- Past Progressive

- Use Past Progressive with the Past Simple to talk about an action that was interrupted by another action
- Use *WHEN* for Past Simple
  *(He was skiing when he fell)*
- Use *WHILE/ WHEN* for Past Progressive
  *(While/ WHEN he was skiing, he fell)*

CIRCLE THE CORRECT ITEM.

1. Ada lost / was losing her camera while she travelled / was travelling in Berlin.
2. While we drove / were driving home, we saw / was seeing an accident.
3. It snowed / was snowing when I got / was getting up.
4. Mum broke / was breaking a plate while she washed / was washing the dishes.
5. When the doorbell rang / was ringing, Umut slept / was sleeping.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

CONSOLIDATION

## HOMEWORK

**C. Complete the sentences with Past Simple and the Past Continuous of verbs in brackets**

Remember:

- Past Continuous + WHEN + Past Simple
- Past Simple + WHILE + Past Continuous

1. I _____ (go) to work, **when** I _____ (see) an accident.
2. The phone _____ (ring) **while** David _____ (have) a shower.
3. Sarah and Kate _____ (have) a drink, **when** two men _____ (start) to fight.
4. I _____ (sleep), **when** I _____ (fall) off the bed.
5. The phone _____ (ring) **while** I _____ (read) a book.
6. I _____ (do) my homework, **when** my mum _____ (arrive)
7. It _____ (start) to rain **while** Helen and Michael _____ (wait) for the bus.
8. Harry _____ (sit) on the sofa, **when** his wife _____ (come) home.
9. **While** Emma _____ (go) home, she _____ (have) an accident.
10. **When** I _____ (meet) Robert, he _____ (wear) a black suit.

**Resources:** computer, mobile phone, internet, portfolio folder, sheets. Teachers, parents

**Did you know?**
The Simple Past is used **for completed actions, while past progressive is used to express interrupted actions.**

**Remember**

PAST CONTINUOUS + WHEN + PAST SIMPLE
PAST SIMPLE + WHILE + PAST CONTINUOUS

**Curious fact…**
The past continuous and the past simple help us to show how two past actions or situations are connected.

**Relationship with values**
Conflict resolution

**LEARN MORE:**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLj-Dbz-CWk&t=5s

**Bibliografía:**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLj-Dbz-CWk
https://es.liveworksheets.com/worksheets/en/English_as_a_Second_Language_(ESL)/Past_simple_and_past_continuous/5%C2%B0_135_al1200480ik

LIVEWORKSHEETS