

PAST SIMPLE VS PAST CONTINUOUS

PAST SIMPLE	PAST CONTINUOUS
To talk about a complete event in the past. * John played football yesterday with his friends. * I made a cake on Sunday. * It rained a lot yesterday evening.	To talk about an action that was in progress when something else happened. * Last Saturday, John was playing football with his friends when he saw Joanne. * The phone rang while I was cooking dinner. * It was raining when I left work.
To talk about one event that followed another event. (Chronological order) * When Joanne finished university, she got a job in a bank and after 5 years she wrote an autobiography.	In a story we often use the past continuous to say what was in progress, when something happened. (To set the atmosphere) * The sun was shining. The kids were playing football and the parents were sitting under the trees. Suddenly, it started raining...
PAST SIMPLE  + verb past + rest +) I went to the park yesterday.  + did not + verb simple form + rest. -) I did not go to the park yesterday. (did not = didn't) Did +  + verb s.f. + rest ? ?) Did I go to the park yesterday? Yes, I did. / No, I didn't.	PAST CONTINUOUS +)  + was/were + verb -ing. I was working. You were playing. -)  + was not/were not + verb -ing. I wasn't working. You weren't playing. ?) Was/ Were +  + -ing ? Was I working? Yes, I was. No, I wasn't Were you playing? Yes, I was. No, I wasn't I, He, She, It was You, We, They were