

Past continuous tense (1)

A: Guess what? I met Miss Cheung and her husband at Magic Shopping Centre last Sunday!

B: Really? What **were** they doing? **Were** they buying clothes?

A: No, they weren't. I met them in a cafe. I **was** having dessert and they **were** drinking coffee.

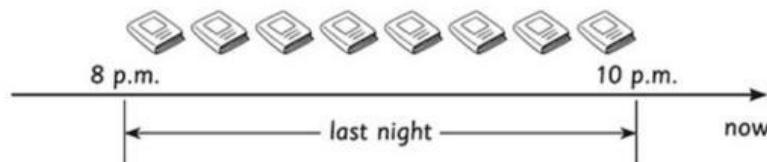


We usually use the **past continuous tense** for actions that continued for a period of time in the past.

What **were** you **doing** when I called you last night?
I **was reading** a book.

I / He / She / It + **was** + -ing

We / You / They + **were** + -ing



Circle the correct words and fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given.

- 1 Mum (was / were) _____ (chat) on the phone at ten o'clock last night.
- 2 I saw your brother yesterday morning. He (was / were) _____ (have) a kung fu lesson.
- 3 I couldn't find my friends at recess because they (was / were) _____ (play) hike-and-seek this morning.
- 4 Dad saw Mr and Mrs Wood this evening. They (was / were) _____ (eat) hotpot in a restaurant.
- 5 The dog (was / were) _____ (swim) in the pond when I saw it.
- 6 A: Did you see the robber?
B: Yes, I did. The security guards (was / were) _____ (chase) him.

Date: _____

Practice

A Write sentences using the past continuous tense.

1 Louise / last Sunday evening / (make) a lantern / at seven o'clock

2 the girls / yesterday afternoon / (do) water sports / at three o'clock

Practice

B Write questions using the past continuous tense.

1 at six o'clock this morning / (jog) / Willy

A: _____

B: No, he wasn't.

2 (sleep) / Carol and you / at eleven o'clock

A: _____

B: Yes, we were.

Grammar
in Context

Finish the conversation using the past continuous tense.

Mum: Oh no! What happened to the vase?



Dad : I don't know. What were Eddy and Katy

① _____ (do) this morning?

Mum: Eddy ② _____ (paint)

a picture. Katy ③ _____ (watch) a film at the cinema.

Dad : How about Ivan and Lucy? Were they ④ _____ (play) ball games inside again?

Mum: No, they ⑤ _____ (play) ball games. They

⑥ _____ (bake) cookies. Oh! The cat

⑦ _____ (play) near the vase. I think she broke it!