



PAST PROGRESSIVE TENSE

USAGE



S + was/were + Verb-ing + C
She was running in the park.



S + was/were (not) + Verb-ing + C
She was not running in the park.



Was/were + S + Verb-ing + C + ?
Was she running in the park?

⚙ For an action which was in progress when another action interrupted it. We use the past continuous for the action in progress and the past simple for the action which interrupted it.

Ex: We were playing football in the garden when it started to rain.

⚙ For two or more simultaneous actions in the past.

Ex: I was cooking while Mary was watching TV.

Grammar in use

- Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past tense.
 - While I _____ (put) the children to bed, the phone _____ (ring).
 - She was nervous because she _____ (wait) a week to hear if she _____ (get) the job.
 - Yesterday, I _____ at the bus stop when a friend _____ (drive) by and _____ (offer) me a lift.
 - We _____ (see) the film last weekend, but I _____ (not/enjoy) it at all.
 - I _____ (not/see) her since she _____ (move) to her new flat.
 - Where _____ (you/be) last night? I _____ (stand) outside the theatre for two hours!
 - I _____ (know) she _____ (cry) because her eyes were red.
 - After he _____ (work) as a waiter in an Italian restaurant for ten years he quit his job and _____ (open) a coffee shop.

Reading Activity

II. Complete the sentences with the verbs in parentheses. Use the correct past tense.



1. Once upon a time, a king and his three daughters (live) _____ lived _____ in a castle in a faraway land. One day while the king (think) _____ was thinking _____ about his daughters, he (have) _____ had _____ an idea. He (form) _____ formed _____ a plan for finding husbands for them.
2. When it (come) _____ time for the three daughters to marry, the king (announced) _____ his plan. He said, "I'm going to take three jewels to the center of the village. The young men (meet) _____ at the fountain there every day. The three young men who find the jewels will become my daughters' husbands."
3. The next day, the king (choose) _____ three jewels – an emerald, a ruby, and a diamond – and (take) _____ them into the village. He (hold) _____ them in his hand and (walk) _____ among the young men. First, he (drop) _____ the emerald, then the ruby, and the diamond. A handsome man (pick) _____ up the emerald. Then a wealthy prince (spot) _____ the ruby and (bend) _____ down to pick it up. The king (be) _____ very pleased.
4. But then a frog (hop) _____ toward the diamond and (pick) _____ it up. The frog (bring) _____ the diamond to the king and said. "I (be) _____ the Frog Prince. I claim your third daughter as my wife."
5. When the king (tell) _____ Tina, his third daughter, about the Frog Prince, she (refuse) _____ to marry him. When the people of the land (hear) _____ the news about the frog and the princess, they (laugh) _____ and (laugh) _____ "Have you heard the news?" the people (say) _____ to each other. "Princess Tina is going to marry a frog!"



