

Tense Review

Simple Past - Past Continuous



George (1) _____ (to go) to have a look at the car, when he suddenly (2) _____ (to feel) very nervous. Was he doing the right thing? Was that a good car? He (3) _____ (to start) to have many doubts, so he (4) _____ (to phone) his dad.

"Could you come and help me?", he (5) _____ (to ask). "OK, but let me tell you I (6) _____ (to sleep) when you (7) _____ (to call) and you (8) _____ (to wake) me up, so I'm quite cross!"

PAST CONTINUOUS

We use Past Continuous to talk about actions which were in progress at some point in the past. For example:

"Martha *was riding* a horse yesterday at 5 pm."



Affirmative:

I	was	sleeping last night.
You	were	
He/She/It	was	
We/You/They	were	

Negative:

I	was	NOT	sleeping last night.
You	were		
He/She/It	was		
We/You/They	were		

NOTE: was not = wasn't / were not = weren't

Interrogative:

Was	I	sleeping last night?
Were	you	
Was	he/she/it	
Were	we/you/they	



Sometimes we use the **Simple Past** to interrupt the action in progress. For example:

"Martha *was riding* a horse **when** she saw her daughter in the river".

We can also say:

"**While** Martha *was riding* a horse, she saw her daughter in the river."

WHEN 'generally' introduces the sentence in the simple past.

WHILE 'generally' introduces the sentence in the past progressive.

