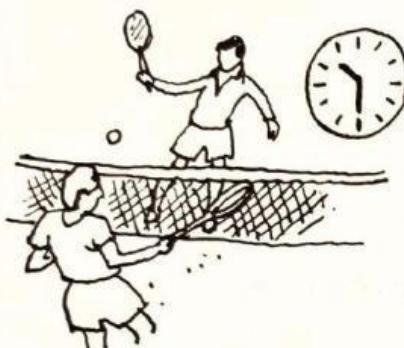


THE PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE (Murphy, p 24-25)



Yesterday Tom and Jim played tennis. They began at 10 o'clock and finished at 11 o'clock.

What were they doing at 10.30?
They were playing tennis (at 10.30).

'They were playing' means that they were in the middle of playing tennis. They had started playing but they hadn't finished.

This is the *past continuous* tense:

I/he/she was } playing
we/they/you were }

UNIT 12 Exercises

12.1 Here is a list of some things that Ann did yesterday (and the times at which she did them):

1 8.45-9.15	had breakfast	4 12.45-1.30	had lunch
2 9.15-10.00	read the newspaper	5 2.30-3.30	washed some clothes
3 10.00-12.00	cleaned her flat	6 4.00-6.00	watched television

Now write sentences saying what she was doing at these times:

1 At 9 o'clock	she was having breakfast.	4 At 1 o'clock
2 At 9.30	she	5 At 3 o'clock
3 At 11 o'clock	6 At 5 o'clock

12.2 A group of people were staying in a hotel. One evening the fire alarm rang. Use the words in brackets to make sentences saying what each person was doing at the time.
Example: (Don / have / a bath) Don was having a bath.

1 (Ann / write / a letter in her room)	Ann
2 (George / get / ready to go out)	George
3 (Carol and Dennis / have / dinner)	Carol and Dennis
4 (Tom / make / a phone call)	Tom

Remember for single Subject: Was +Verb-ing

Eg John was fishing yesterday .

John was fishing yesterday when it rained.

John and Alan were fishing by the lake when it rained. (When there are two or more subjects doing the action, use *were+ Verb-ing*

12. 1

- 1 At 9.30 She(read)...the newspaper .
- 2 At 11 o' clock Annher flat. (clean)
- 3 At 1 o'clock, Ann.....lunch. (have)
4. At 3 o' clock, Ann.....some clothes. (wash)

12.2 Complete the sentences using the past continuous.

When the fire alarm rang, ...

- 1 Ann.....a letter in her room. (write)
2. Georgeready to go out. (get)
- 3 Carol and Dennis.....dinner. (have)
3. Toma phone call. (make)