

I was doing (past continuous)

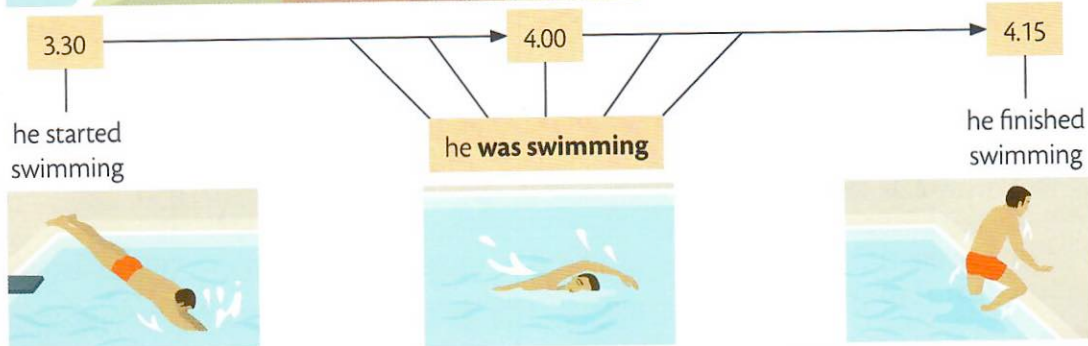
A



It is 6 o'clock now.
Paul **is** at home.
He **is watching** TV.

At 4 o'clock he **wasn't** at home.
He **was** at the sports club.

He **was swimming** in the pool.
He **wasn't watching** TV.



B

was/were + -ing is the *past continuous*:

positive

I he she it	was	doing watching playing swimming living etc.
we you they	were	

negative

I he she it	was not (wasn't)	doing watching playing swimming living etc.
we you they	were not (weren't)	

question

was	I he she it	doing? watching? playing? swimming? living? etc.
were	we you they	

- ☐ What **were** you **doing** at 11.30 yesterday? **Were** you **working**?
- ☐ 'What did he say?' 'I don't know. I **wasn't listening**'
- ☐ It **was raining**, so we didn't go out.
- ☐ In 2009 we **were living** in Canada.
- ☐ Today she's wearing a skirt, but yesterday she **was wearing** trousers.
- ☐ I woke up early yesterday. It was a beautiful morning. The sun **was shining** and the birds **were singing**.

Spelling (live → **living** / run → **running** / lie → **lying** etc.) → Appendix 5

C

am/is/are + -ing (present) → **was/were + -ing** (past):

present

- ☐ I **'m working** (now).
- ☐ It **isn't raining** (now).
- ☐ What **are** you **doing** (now)?

past

- ☐ I **was working** at 10.30 last night.
- ☐ It **wasn't raining** when we went out.
- ☐ What **were** you **doing** at 3 o'clock?

Exercises

- 13.1 Look at the pictures. Where were these people at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon? And what were they doing? Write two sentences for each picture.

				
RACHEL	JACK KATE	TOM	TRACEY	MR AND MRS HALL
at home watch TV	at the cinema watch a film	in his car drive	at the station wait for a train	in the park walk

- Rachel was at home. She was watching TV.
- Jack and Kate They
- Tom
-
-
- And you? I

- 13.2 Sarah did a lot of things yesterday morning. Look at the pictures and complete the sentences.

7.10 – 7.25 	7.30 – 8.10 	8.30 – 9.00 
9.20 – 10.00 	10.15 – 11.45 	12.00 – 12.45 

- At 8.45 she was washing her car.
- At 10.45 she
- At 8 o'clock
- At 12.10
- At 7.15
- At 9.30

- 13.3 Complete the questions. Use **was/were -ing**. Use **what/where/why** if necessary.

- (you/live) Where were you living in 2012?
- (you/do) at 2 o'clock?
- (it/rain) when you got up?
- (Sue/drive) so fast?
- (Tom/wear) a suit yesterday?

In London.
I was asleep.
No, it was sunny.
Because she was late.
No, a T-shirt and jeans.

- 13.4 Look at the picture. You saw Joe in the street yesterday afternoon. What was he doing? Write positive or negative sentences.



- (wear / a jacket) He wasn't wearing a jacket.
- (carry / a bag)
- (go / to the dentist)
- (eat / an ice cream)
- (carry / an umbrella)
- (go / home)
- (wear / a hat)
- (ride / a bicycle)

I was doing (past continuous) and
I did (past simple)

A



Jack was reading
a book.

His phone rang.

He stopped reading.

He answered his
phone.

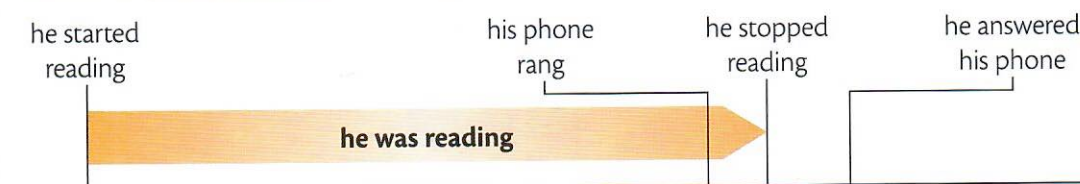
What **happened**? His phone **rang**. (*past simple*)

What **was** Jack **doing** when his phone rang? } (*past continuous*)
He **was reading** a book.

What **did** he **do** when his phone rang? } (*past simple*)
He **stopped** reading and **answered** his phone.

Jack began reading *before* his phone rang.

So *when* his phone rang, he **was reading**.



B

past simple

- ☐ A: What **did** you **do** yesterday morning?
B: We **played** tennis. (from 10 to 11.30)



- ☐ Jack **read** a book yesterday. (= from beginning to end)
☐ **Did** you **watch** the game on TV last night?
☐ It **didn't rain** while we were on holiday.

past continuous

- ☐ A: What **were** you **doing** at 10.30?
B: We **were playing** tennis.



- ☐ Jack **was reading** a book when his phone rang.
☐ **Were** you **watching** TV when I phoned you?
☐ It **wasn't raining** when I got up.

- ☐ I **started** work at 9 o'clock and **finished** at 4.30. At 2.30 I **was working**.
☐ It **was raining** when we **went** out. (= it started raining *before* we went out)
☐ I **saw** Lucy and Steve this morning. They **were waiting** at the bus stop.
☐ Kelly **fell** asleep while she **was reading**.

14.1 Look at the pictures. Put the verbs in the correct form, past continuous or past simple.



Lucy broke (break) her arm last week.
It (happen) when
she (paint) her
room. She (fall)
off the ladder.



The train (arrive)
at the station and Paula
(get) off. Two friends of hers, Jon and Rachel,
..... (wait) to
meet her.



Yesterday Sue (walk)
along the road when she (meet)
James. He (go)
to the station to catch a train and he
..... (carry) a bag.
They (stop) to
talk for a few minutes.

14.2 Put the verb into the past continuous or past simple.

- 1 A: What was the weather like when you got (get) up this morning?
B: It was raining (rain).
- 2 A: Was Jane busy when you went to see her?
B: Yes, she (study).
- 3 A: (Paul/call) you this morning?
B: Yes, he (call) while I (have) breakfast.
- 4 A: Was Tracey at work today?
B: No, she (not/go) to work. She was ill.
- 5 A: How fast (you/drive) when the police
..... (stop) you?
B: I'm not sure, but I (not/drive) very fast.
- 6 A: (your team / win) the football match yesterday?
B: The weather was very bad, so we (not/play).
- 7 A: How (you/break) the window?
B: We (play) football. I (kick) the ball and
it (hit) the window.
- 8 A: (you/see) Jessica last night?
B: Yes, she (wear) a very nice jacket.
- 9 A: What (you/do) at 2 o'clock this morning?
B: I was asleep.
- 10 A: I (lose) my key last night.
B: How (you/get) into your room?
A: I (climb) in through a window.