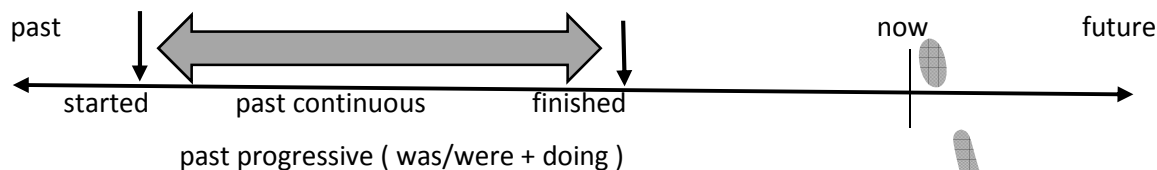


Past continuous

گذشته استمراری



USE

- To say someone was in the middle of doing something at a certain time.
e.g. I was doing my homework at 4 yesterday.
- Refers to a continuing action or state that was happening at some point in the past.
e.g. We were attending school at the same time last year.
- Refers to the action that has been started before this time but had not finished.
e.g. They were waiting for a bus when I saw them.
- Simple past and past continuous are used together to say something happened in the middle of doing something else:
e.g. I was running when I saw Mr. Hamedani.
She burned her hand while she was cooking dinner.
- To describe the background in a story written in the past tense:
e.g. The Sun was shining and the birds were singing as the lion growled.

Formation:

Sub + (was/were) + (v-ing) + certain time in the past

Mr. H was talking when I saw him.

Mr. H wasn't talking when I saw him.

Was Mr. H talking when I saw him?

Yes, he was. He was talking when I saw him.

No, he wasn't. He wasn't talking when I saw him.

Note 1 : “when” is most often followed by the verb tense simple past, whereas “while” is usually followed by past continuous. “While” expresses the idea of during the time.

e.g. Mary was studying when Martha arrived.

While Mary was studying, Martha arrived.

- past simple + when + past simple She played when he arrived.
- past continuous + when + simple past She was playing when I arrived.
- past continuous + while + past continuous She was playing while I was cooking.
- simple past + while + past continuous He arrived while she was playing.

A. Change into past continuous tenses using an appropriate adverb of time.

1. She cleaned the kitchen.
2. The students do their homework.
3. My mom cooked spaghetti.
4. We are listening to music.
5. They play baseball.
6. Mr. Hamedani teaches English.
7. Mary is washing the dishes.
8. John drove his car to work.
9. He wrote some words on the board.
10. Simon read a story book.

B. Change the following sentences into negative and yes/no question.

1. I was reading a book when the phone rang.
2. Mary was washing the dishes when John arrived.
3. While the baby was crying, Sue came in.
4. When Alex went home, they were having dinner.
5. I was driving fast when the accident happened.
6. Ted was cleaning his room while his mom was doing the laundry.
7. The teacher was reading a book when the bell went.
8. Ken was teaching French when Mary came in.

C. Answer the following questions completely.

1. Were you doing your homework when the teacher came in?
2. Was your mom cleaning up at 5 o'clock yesterday?
3. Were the students playing basketball when the earthquake happened?
4. Was Mr. Hamedani teaching half an hour ago?
5. What were you doing at 10 o'clock last night?
6. What were the students doing when the teacher came in?
7. Were the students baking bread half an hour ago?
8. Was your father taking a shower when you arrived home?