



Inglés Intermedio



Review

Did you sleep well?

**Did you drink a cup
of coffee before class?**

**Did you make your own dinner
last night?**

Past

progressive

**We are playing baseball
last night.**



We were playing baseball
last night.



**Suddenly,
it start
raining,**



**Suddenly,
it started
raining,**



so we

went home.





The Past Progressive Tense

Use the **past progressive tense** to talk about actions that were going on at a certain moment in the past.



Mary **was waiting** for the bus when Peter passed by.

Miss May **was cleaning** the chalkboard.

Sally **was packing** her books into her schoolbag.

Jenny and I **were tidying** the classroom.

The twins **were fighting** in the corner.

Michael and John **were washing** the paint brushes.

Mom **was cooking** our supper when I came home.



You form the **past progressive tense** like this:

was + present participle
were + present participle

In the examples above, **was** and **were** are called **helping verbs**, or **auxiliary verbs**. They help to form the **past progressive tense** when you join them to the **present participle** (the form of verbs ending in **-ing**) . For example:

Ben **was doing** his homework.

Peter **was making** a model of a bridge.



Exercise 1

Fill in the blanks with *was* or *were*.

- 1 We _____ the champions last year.
- 2 Where is James? He _____ here just now.
- 3 Mom and Dad _____ on vacation last week.
- 4 The weather _____ fine this morning.
- 5 There _____ a lot of people at our party yesterday.
- 6 There _____ a small lake here many years ago.
- 7 He _____ sick yesterday.
- 8 Don't blame him. It _____ my mistake.

When Miss May walked into the class what were the children doing? Fill in the blanks with the correct *past progressive tense* of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 James _____ to Peter. (talk)
- 2 Sue _____ a storybook. (read)
- 3 Rudy _____ the chalkboard. (erase)
- 4 David _____ his math exercise. (do)
- 5 Peter _____ Joe his new watch. (show)
- 6 Jane _____ a horse in her notebook. (draw)

7 At the moment, the children _____ their homework. (do)

THE SIMPLE PAST AND THE PAST PROGRESSIVE

THE SIMPLE PAST



THE PAST PROGRESSIVE



- (a) Mary *walked* downtown yesterday.
- (b) I *slept* for eight hours last night.

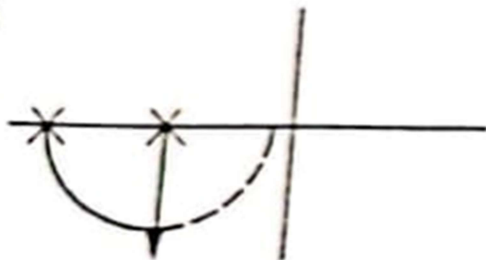
The simple past is used to talk about activities or situations that **began** and **ended** at a particular time in the past (e.g., *yesterday, last night, two days ago, in 1990*), as in (a) and (b).

THE SIMPLE PAST AND THE PAST PROGRESSIVE

THE SIMPLE PAST



THE PAST PROGRESSIVE



- (c) I sat down at the dinner table at 6:00 P.M. yesterday. Tom came to my house at 6:10 P.M. I **was eating** dinner when Tom came.
- (d) I went to bed at 10:00. The phone rang at 11:00. I **was sleeping** when the phone rang.

The past progressive expresses an activity that **was in progress** (was occurring, was happening) at a point of time in the past (e.g., *at 6:10*) or at the time of another action (e.g., *when Tom came*.) In (c): Eating was in progress at 6:10; eating was in progress when Tom came.

FORM: **was, were + -ing.**

When were you born?

I was born in _____.

I was born on _____, _____.

When were you born?

I was born in August.

I was born on August 17, 1988.

Was and Were

The verbs **was** and **were** are also forms of the verb **be**. **Was** is the simple past tense of **am** and **is**. Use **was** with the pronouns **I**, **he**, **she** and **it**, and with **singular nouns**.

Edison **was** a famous inventor.



Beethoven **was** a German composer.

Sue **was** at the library this morning.

It **was** very wet on Monday.

Ten years ago she **was** only a baby.

He **was** not well yesterday.

Last year she **wasn't** tall enough to reach the high shelf.

Samantha **was** second in the race, **wasn't she?**

Were is the simple past tense of **are**. Use **were** with the pronouns **you**, **we** and **they**, and with plural nouns.

These **were** my best jeans.

The Romans **were** brave soldiers.
They **were** third in the wheelbarrow race.
There **weren't** any clouds in the sky.
Were you still in bed when I phoned?
We **were** on the same school team.
Those **were** my best jeans.





Here is a table to help you remember the rules:

	Singular	Plural
First person	I was	we were
Second person	you were	you were
Third person	he was she was it was	they were they were they were

Here's a table to show you the different forms of the verb **be**:

Simple Present

Simple Past

First person singular

am

was

Second person singular

are

were

Third person singular

is

was

First person plural

are

were

Second person plural

are

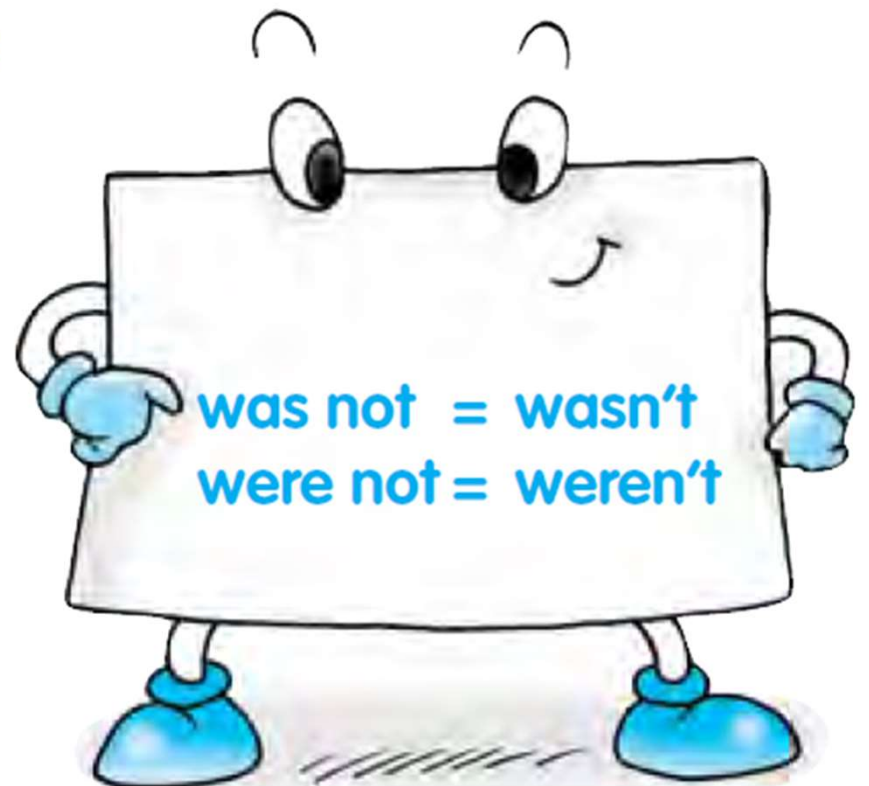
were

Third person plural

are

were

Learn these contractions:



THE SIMPLE PAST AND THE PAST PROGRESSIVE

2-7 FORMS OF THE PAST PROGRESSIVE


STATEMENT	{I-She-He-It} <i>was working</i> . {You-We-They} <i>were working</i> .
NEGATIVE	{I-She-He-It} <i>was not (wasn't) working</i> . {You-We-They} <i>were not (weren't) working</i> .
QUESTION	<i>Was</i> {I-she-he-it} <i>working</i> ? <i>Were</i> {you-we-they} <i>working</i> ?
SHORT ANSWER	Yes {I-she-he-it} <i>was</i> . No, {I-she-he-it} <i>wasn't</i> . Yes, {you-we-they} <i>were</i> . No, {you-we-they} <i>weren't</i> .

Last night, I _____ alone at my _____.
Suddenly, I _____ a noise.
It was coming from the _____.
I went to check and I saw a
_____. It was so unexpected!
I was _____.

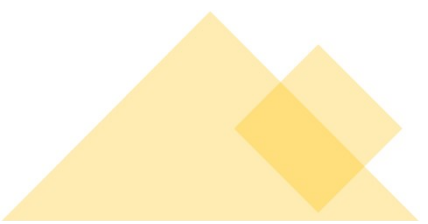


The image features a solid orange background. In the center is a large white circle. A dashed yellow arc is positioned on the left side of the white circle. A small solid blue circle is located on the right side of the white circle. The word "Homework" is written in a cursive font across the center of the white circle, with "Home" in red and "work" in blue.

Homework



Complete the following. Use the words in the parentheses. Use the SIMPLE PAST or the PAST PROGRESSIVE.

1. Bob went to bed at 10.30. At 11.00 Bob (sleep)
 2. Sally **(eat)** _____ dinner last night when someone **(knock)** _____ on the door.
 3. While I **(study)** _____ last night, Fred **(drop by)** _____ to visit me.
 4. My mother called me around five. My husband came home a little after that. When he **(come)** _____ home, I **(talk)** _____ to my mother on the phone.
- 

Now, complete number 5, but be careful, use PAST PROGRESSIVE only twice, the rest of the verbs should be in SIMPLE PAST.

5. Yesterday, Tom and Janice **(go)** _____ to the zoo around one o'clock. They **(see)** _____ many kinds of animals and **(have)** _____ a few adventures. While they **(walk)** _____ by the elephant, it **(begin)** _____ to squirt water at them, so they **(run)** _____ behind a rock and **(dry)** _____ themselves. Later, while they **(pass)** _____ the giraffe area, one of the tall, purple-tongued animals **(lower)** _____ its head toward Tom and **(start)** to nibble on his green hat. Janice said, "Shoo!" At that point, the giraffe **(stretch)** _____ its head toward Janice and **(try)** _____ to eat her ice cream cone. Janice **(let, not)** _____ the giraffe have the ice cream because she **(stand)** _____ right in front of a sign that said, "DO NOT FEED THE ANIMALS." She **(point)** _____ at the sign and **(say)** _____ to the giraffe, "Can't you read?"