

INSTITUCIÓN EDUCATIVA MIGUEL DE CERVANTES SAAVEDRA.

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GUIA No. 6

PAST CONTINUOUS

Estudiante: _____

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Buena Noche Estudiantes de Ciclo 4 de la Institución Educativa Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra.
Favor resolver la guía y enviarla de regreso a SINAPSIS antes del 21 MAYO. Gracias

Past continuous

Level: beginner

The past continuous is made from **the past tense of the verb *be*** and the ***-ing form*** of a verb:

I was
You were
He was
She was
It was
We were
You were
They were

working
playing
living
talking
etc.

We use the past continuous to talk about the **past**:

- for something which **happened before and after another action**:

The children **were doing** their homework when I got home.

Compare: The children **did** their homework when (= after) I **got** home.

This use of the past continuous is very common at the beginning of a story:

The other day **I was waiting** for a bus when ...

Last week, as **I was driving** to work, ...

- for something that **happened before and after a specific time**:

It was eight o'clock. **I was writing** a letter.

Compare: At eight o'clock I wrote (= started writing) some letters.

- to show that something **continued for some time**:

My head **was aching**.

Everyone **was shouting**.

- for something that **happened again and again**:

I was practising every day, three times a day.

They **were meeting** secretly after school.

They **were always quarrelling**.

- with verbs which show **change or growth**:

The children **were growing up** quickly.

Her English **was improving**.

My hair **was going** grey.

The town **was changing** quickly.

We do **not** normally use the past continuous with **stative verbs**. We use the **past simple** instead:

When I got home, I really **needed** (NOT ~~was needing~~) a shower.

Was or Were

Decide whether to use 'was' or 'were'.

1. Boris learning English.
2. They swimming in the lake.
3. Your father repairing the car.
4. I reading a magazine.
5. You packing your bag.
6. My friends watching the match on TV.
7. It raining.
8. The dog barking.
9. The children brushing their teeth.
10. Anne and Maureen singing a song.

Put in the verb in brackets into the gaps and form **affirmative** sentences in **Past Progressive**.

> [Show example](#)

- 1 She hockey. (*to play*)
- 2 They in the pool. (*to swim*)
- 3 It . (*to rain*)
- 4 We to music. (*to listen*)
- 5 The mobile . (*to ring*)
- 6 The students . (*to text*)
- 7 Max with two girls. (*to dance*)
- 8 I in front of the shop. (*to wait*)
- 9 The cat in the basket. (*to sleep*)
- 10 He Gerry's bike. (*to repair*)

Past Continuous - Positive and Negative

Make the positive or negative past continuous

1) Julie (sleep) at three o'clock.

[.]

2) You (study) at three o'clock.

[.]

3) Luke (read) at three o'clock.

[.]

4) I (work) at three o'clock.

[.]

5) They (eat) chocolate at three o'clock.

[.]

6) John (play) tennis at three o'clock.

[.]

7) We (watch) TV at three o'clock.

[.]

8) He (use) the internet at three o'clock.

[.]

9) You (cook) lunch at three o'clock.

[.]

10) We (travel) to London at three o'clock.

11) Mrs Brown (not/walk) in the garden when the murder happened.

[.]

12) Mr Black (not/work) in his study when the murder happened.

[.]

13) Miss Jones (not/talk) to Mr. White when the murder happened.

[.]

14) You (not/play) cards when the murder happened.

[.]

15) Dr Ford (not/read) in his room when the murder happened.

[.]

16) Mr. and Mrs. Green (not/eat) in the dining room when the murder happened.

[.]

17) Mr Blue (not/drink) coffee in the library when the murder happened.

[.]

18) The maid (not/clean) the bedrooms when the murder happened.

[.]

19) I (not/listen) to music when the murder happened.

[.]

20) The dogs (not/play) outside when the murder happened.

[.]

Put the verbs into the correct form (past progressive).

1. When I phoned my friends, they (play)

monopoly.

2. Yesterday at six I (prepare)

dinner.

3. The kids (play)

in the garden when it suddenly began to rain.

4. I (practice)

the guitar when he came home.

5. We (not / cycle)

all day.

6. While Alan (work)

in his room, his friends (swim)

in the pool.

7. I tried to tell them the truth but they (not / listen)

8. What (you / do)

yesterday?

9. Most of the time we (sit)

in the park.

10. I (listen)

to the radio while my sister (watch)