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**Past Continuous** Worksheet No. (4)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade 5(A+B)

Objective: To review the past continuous tense.

To practise forming and using the past continuous in sentences.

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The past continuous (also called past progressive) is a [verb tense](https://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/verbtenseintro.html) which is used to show that an ongoing past action was happening at a specific moment of interruption, or that two ongoing actions were happening at the same time.

**Past Continuous Forms**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Positive | Negative | Question |
| I **was singing**. | I **was not singing**. | **Was** I **singing**? |
| You **were singing** | You **were not singing**. | **Were** you **singing**? |
| We **were singing**. | We **were not singing**. | **Were** we **singing**? |
| They **were singing**. | They **were not singing**. | **Were** they **singing**? |
| He **was singing**. | He **was not singing**. | **Was** he **singing**? |
| She **was singing**. | She **was not singing**. | **Was** she **singing**? |
| It **was singing**. | It **was not singing**. | **Was** it **singing**? |

**Past Continuous Uses**

**USE 1An action that was happening at a specific time in the past.**

past continuous specific time

Examples:

* **Last night at 6 pm**, I **was eating** dinner.
* **At midnight**, we **were** still **driving** through the desert.
* **Yesterday at this time**, I **was sitting** at my desk at work.

**USE 2 Interrupted Action in the Past**

past continuous interrupted action

Use the past continuous to indicate that a longer action in the past was interrupted. The interruption is usually a shorter action in the simple past. Remember this can be a real interruption or just an interruption in time.

Examples:

* I **was watching** TV when she called.
* While we **were having** the picnic, it started to rain.
* What **were** you **doing** when the earthquake happened?
* I **was listening** to my iPod, so I didn't hear the fire alarm.
* You **were not listening** to me when I told you to turn the oven off.
* While John **was sleeping** last night, someone stole his car.
* Sammy **was waiting** for us when we got off the plane.
* While I **was writing** the email, the computer suddenly went off.
* A: What **were** you **doing** when you broke your leg?  
  B: I **was snowboarding**.

**USE 3 Parallel Actions (two actions that were happening at the same time in the past)**

past continuous parallel actions

When you use the past continuous with two actions in the same sentence, it expresses the idea that both actions were happening at the same time. The actions are parallel.

Examples:

* I **was studying** while he **was making** dinner.
* **Were** you **listening** while he **was talking**?
* I **wasn't paying** attention while I **was writing** the letter, so I made several mistakes.
* What **were** you **doing** while you **were waiting**?
* Thomas **wasn't working**, and I **wasn't working** either.
* They **were eating** dinner, **discussing** their plans, and **having** a good time.

\*\*Note:

When Past Simple

* When the phone rang, she **was writing** a letter.

While Past Continuous

* While Ellen **was reading**, Tim **was watching** television.

#### **Practice**

#### **Put the verbs into the correct past form. (Past Continuous /Past Simple)**

1. When I -------------- **(phone)** my friends, they ---------------- **(play)** monopoly.
2. Yesterday at six, I --------------- **(prepare)** dinner.
3. The kids --------------- **(play)**in the garden when it suddenly **-------(begin)** to rain.
4. I ------------------ **(practice)** the guitar when he --------------**(come)** home.
5. While Alan --------------- **(work)** in his room, his friends ----------------- **(swim)** in the pool.
6. I ------------------ **(try)** to tell them the truth but they ----------------- **(not / listen).**
7. What ----------------- you --------------**(do)** yesterday?
8. I ------------------- **(listen)**to the radio while my sister --------------- **(watch)** TV.
9. When I --------------- **(arrive),** they ----------------- **(play)**cards.
10. We --------------- **(study)** English yesterday at 4:00 pm.

Coordinator’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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