

The past continuous

Use

The past continuous can be used to:

Describe an interrupted action

Example

He **was running** errands when his friend **called**.

Express an action happening for a period of time

Example

We **were living** in Kyoto between 2010 and 2012.

Express two actions happening at the same time in the past

Example

While I **was cleaning** the house, my sister **was watching** television

Form

You make the past continuous using *was* or *were* and the verb + *ing*.

	Was/were	Verb +ing	
Positive Statement	I was	playing	<i>guitar all night</i>
Negative Statement	It wasn't (was not)	raining	<i>when I left the house</i>
Question	Were you	<i>eating</i>	<i>when they were hungry?</i>