

## Past continuous

We use the Past continuous tense to talk about an action that was happening in the past.

Subject+was/were+V4  
+object+other words

I/he/she/it/my brother-was

You/we/they/my brothers-were

Other words:when,while,by  
this time yesterday,at this time  
yesterday,at 10 am last  
Sunday,at 2 pm  
yesterday,then.

Note:When+simple past

While/when+subject+was/  
were+V4+object

1.He was watching TV when  
they came.

2.While he was watching  
TV,they came.

3.When he was watching  
TV,they came.

4.He was watching TV at 3 pm  
yesterday.

5.He was watching TV at this  
time yesterday.

6.He was watching TV by this  
time yesterday.

7.He was watching TV then.

8.While he was watching  
TV,she was cooking lunch.

## Other examples

She was crying when I saw.

They were playing cricket at 4  
pm yesterday.

We were practising tenses  
when the bell rang.

It was raining when we came  
out of the class.

He was driving the car when  
the accident occurred.

While I was explaining the  
topic,he asked me a doubt.

While I was having  
breakfast,you called me.

I was having breakfast when  
you called me.

Past continuous

Types of sentences

I/he/she/it/Ganesh/my brother

was not=wasn't

(P)He was reading a book  
when they came.

(N)He wasn't reading a book  
when they came.

(PI)Was he reading a book  
when they came?

(NI)Was he not reading a book  
when they came?

(Wasn't he reading a book  
when they came?)

What was he doing when they  
came?

Which book was he reading  
when they came?

Where was he reading the book  
when they came?

Why was he reading the book  
when they came?

How was he reading the book  
when they came?

Who was reading the book  
when they came?

Past continuous

Types of sentences

You/we/they/my brothers

were not=weren't

(P)They were going to market at 9 am yesterday.

(N)They weren't going to market at 9 am yesterday.

(PI)Were they going to market at 9 am yesterday?

(NI)Were they not going to market at 9 am yesterday?

(Weren't they going to market at 9 am yesterday?)

What were they doing at 9 am yesterday?

Where were they going at 9 am yesterday?

Why were they going to market at 9 am yesterday?

Who were going to market at 9 am yesterday?

How were they going to market at 9 am yesterday?

## Past continuous

Yes/No questions and answers

Were you having lunch when I called you?

Yes, I was having lunch when you called me.

Yes, I was.

No, I wasn't having lunch when you called me.

No, I wasn't.

Were you watching TV when the power went off?

Yes, we were watching TV when the power went off.

Yes, we were.

No, we weren't watching TV when the power went off.

No, weren't.

Were they going to temple at 7 o' clock this morning?

Yes, they were going to temple at 7 o' clock this morning.

Yes, they were.

No, they weren't going to temple at 7 o' clock this morning.

No, they weren't.

Was he driving the car when the accident occurred?

Yes, he was driving the car when the accident occurred.

Yes, he was.

No, he wasn't driving the car when the accident occurred.

No, he wasn't.

Was Ganesh listening to music by this time yesterday?

Yes, Ganesh was listening to music by this time yesterday.

Yes, he was.

No, Ganesh wasn't listening to music by this time yesterday.

No, he wasn't.

Was she cooking lunch when you went there?

Yes, she was cooking lunch when we went there.

Yes, she was.

No, she wasn't cooking lunch when we went there.

No, she wasn't.

Was it raining when you got up?

Yes, it was raining when I got up.

Yes, it was.

No, it wasn't raining when I got up.

No, it wasn't.