Past Progressive

Uses of the past progressive

- 1. To describe actions were in progress at special time in the past.
 - Example: He was reading a book yesterday evening.
- 2. To describe actions that were in progress at the same time in the past, but these actions don't influence each other.
 - o Example: He was running while she was reading a book.
- 3. Is typically used together Past Simple to describe an action in progress when another action happened.
 - o Example: While we were having dinner, my father came.

Grammar Structure

Affirmative: Subject + was/were + Ving + Complement

Negative: Subject + was/were + not + Ving + Complement

Interrogative: Wh + was/were + Subject + Ving - Complement + ?

Spelling rules

To form the Past Progressive, we use the Past Simple of the verb ToBe followed by the "ing" form of the main verb. Be careful with the rules

- 1. If the verb ends with "e", we replace it with "ing"
 - Example: Work => working
- 2. "vowel + consonant" we double the consonant and add "ing"
 - Example: Run => running
- 3. If the verb ends with "ie", we replace it with "y" and add "ing"
 - Example: Lie => Lying

Examples

Affirmative

- 1. They were speaking loudly.
- 2. Yesterday I was taking a shower while my brothers were having breakfast.
- 3. Today I was sleeping when the phone rang.

Negative

- 1. They weren't speaking loudly.
- 2. Yesterday I wasn't taking a shower while my brothers were having breakfast
- 3. Today I wasn't sleeping when the phone rang

Interrogative

- 1. Were they speaking loudly?
- 2. Was I taking a shower yesterday while my brothers were having breakfast?
- 3. Where were you living before you bought your own home?