



Past Continuous Tense

(Negative and Interrogative)

Grammar > Intermediate 4



Exercise 1 – Learning

Past Continuous - Negative

Remember that the past continuous pattern is: **was/were + main verb-ing**.

To form negative sentences in this tense, put '**not**' in between the helping verb and the main verb: **was/were + not + main verb -ing**.

- I **was not (wasn't)** sleeping.
- You **were not (weren't)** working.
- He/She/It **was not (wasn't)** coming.
- We **were not (weren't)** studying.
- You **were not (weren't)** reading.
- They **were not (weren't)** shopping.



Past Continuous - Interrogative

To form yes-no questions in this tense, simply switch the subject and the helping verb:

- **I was** sleeping. → **Was I** sleeping?
- **It was** raining. → **Was it** raining?
- **They were** coming. → **Were they** coming?

To form open-ended questions (wh-questions) put the question word at the beginning:

- **Was I** sleeping? → **Why was I** sleeping?
- **Was it** raining? → **Where was it** raining?
- **Were they** coming? → **How were they** coming?



Exercise 2 – Fill in the Blanks

Fill in the blanks with the negative past continuous form of the verb.

1. I _____ all day yesterday. (study)
2. He _____ for me. (wait)
3. They _____ going to the party. (go)
4. She _____ a book. (read)
5. It _____ when I called you. (rain)
6. We _____ last night. (play)
7. The manager _____ the report. (write)
8. Susan and John _____ the TV. (watch)



Exercise 3 – Sentence Construction

Use what you learned in class to make questions and change these verbs into past continuous tense.

Example: The people jump. → Were the people jumping?

Content:

1. The dog waits for his owner.
2. I sit near the pool.
3. Lisa is smelling her clothes.
4. An airplane is flying in the sky.
5. They kissed.
6. We sleep.