

English 14-05

Past simple vs Past Perfect vs Past Continuous

| Past Simple | Past Continuous | Past Perfect |
|---|---|--|
| <i>I danced / He sold / I didn't dance / She didn't sell Did you dance? / Did she sell?</i> | <i>I was dancing / They were dancing / I wasn't dancing / They weren't dancing / Was he dancing? / Were they dancing?</i> | <i>I had danced / I had danced / I hadn't danced / I hadn't danced Had you danced? / Had you danced?</i> |

1. Per parlare di un'azione che si ripeteva regolarmente nel passato.

I used to read books a lot, but now I don't have time for it.

1. Per parlare di azioni che stavano accadendo in un certo periodo nel passato.

I was waiting for you at 6 pm yesterday.

1. Per parlare di qualcosa che è successo prima di un'altra azione già trascorsa. Per esempio:

She had called me before I came to the office.
The little bird had learnt to fly before the nest was destroyed.
I had departed before he started looking for me.



2. Quando si parla di un periodo di tempo già concluso(*yesterday, last year, an hour ago, the other day, on Monday, etc.*).
We got engaged in 2017.

2. Per parlare di due azioni che accadevano contemporaneamente. In questo caso si usa la congiunzione *while*, che significa "mentre".
I was dreaming about a relaxing evening home, while he was talking me to the crowded pizzeria.

2. Per parlare di un'azione che si è conclusa prima di un certo momento nel passato. Per esempio:
Paul had got very tired by the end of the day.

3. Quando si parla di un fatto del passato.
The river was not 50 years ago.
When Ben was a child, he lived in a country house.

3. Per parlare di un'azione che viene descritta come ancora in corso nel passato e che è stata interrotta da un'altra: in questo caso si usa il Past Simple per indicare l'azione momentanea che interrompe quella prolungata. Per esempio:
We were having dinner when suddenly a doorbell rang.

3. Si usa come Present Perfect per parlare del risultato però si riferisce al risultato nel passato dell'azione che è successa ancora prima. Per esempio:
My sister was not at home. She had already left.
(Paragona: *My sister is not at home. She has already left.*)



4. Per parlare di azioni consecutive nel passato.
Timothy came into the office, sat at his table and started working immediately.

4. All'inizio di un racconto per introdurre la scena.
One evening we were sitting by the fire-place where the flames were happily dancing. As usual, Grandad started telling a story.

Termini e formule che vengono spesso utilizzati con il Past Simple: *yesterday, last week/month/year/Monday, ago, how long ago, just now, then, when, in 1990, etc.*

Il Past Continuous viene spesso usato con i seguenti avverbi e formule: *while, when, as, all day/night/morning, all day yesterday.*

Il Past Perfect si usa spesso con le seguenti parole: *before, after, just, yet, already, for, since, ever, never, till / until, when, by, by the time, etc.*

Attenzione: non dimenticare che ci sono dei verbi in inglese che non esprimono l'azione ma lo stato, attitudine, le relazioni tra gli oggetti o persone e non possono essere usati con il Past Continuous. Puoi trovare più informazioni su questi verbi [qui](#).



Present perfect simple vs Present perfect continuous

Present perfect simple = azione finita ma con effetti ancora oggi

Present perfect continuous = insieme di azione/conseguenze che ha degli effetti tuttora

| | |
|--|---|
| Present perfect simple | Present perfect continuous |
| Focuses on the result | Focuses on the activity |
| <i>You've cleaned the bathroom! It looks lovely!</i> | <i>I've been gardening. It's so nice out there.</i> |
| Says 'how many' | Says 'how long' |
| <i>She's read ten books this summer.</i> | <i>She's been reading that book all day.</i> |
| Describes a completed action | Describes an activity which may continue |
| <i>I've written you an email.</i> | <i>I've been writing emails.</i> |
| | When we can see evidence of recent activity |
| | <i>The grass looks wet. Has it been raining?</i> <i>I know, I'm really red. I've been running!</i> |

Passive

- Inversione soggetto/complemento
- Passivo = Subisce l'azione

ACTIVE

PASSIVE

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| They take the photos | PRESENT SIMPLE | The photos are taken |
| They are taking the photos | PRESENT CONTINUOUS | The photos are being taken |
| They have taken the photos | PRESENT PERFECT | The photos have been taken |
| They took the photos | PAST SIMPLE | The photos were taken |
| They were taking the photos | PAST CONTINUOUS | The photos were being taken |
| They had taken the photos | PAST PERFECT | The photos had been taken |
| They will take the photos | FUTURE | The photos will be taken |
| They are going to take the photos | BE GOING TO | The photos are going to be taken |

| | | | | | |
|--|----------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| I EAT | to take | INFINITIVE | to be | taken | I AM EATEN |
|  | taking | GERUND | being | taken |  |

Strutture generiche per (*Attivo* \Rightarrow *Passivo*)

- Present (Simple) (Struttura)
 - Attiva: Sogg + verbo + complemento
 - Passiva: Complemento + is/are + past participle
- Present (Continuous) (Struttura)
 - Attiva: Sogg + verbo + complemento
 - Passiva: Complemento + is/are + verbo in ing + past participle
- Past (Simple) (Struttura)
 - Attiva: Sogg + verbo + complemento
 - Passiva: Complemento + was/were + past participle
- Past (Continuous) (Struttura)
 - Attiva: Sogg + verbo + complemento
 - Passiva: Complemento + was/were + verbo in ing + past participle
- Present Perfect (Struttura)

- Attiva: Sogg + verbo + complemento
- Passiva: Complemento + has/have + past participle
- Past Perfect (Struttura)
 - Attiva: Sogg + verbo + complemento
 - Passiva: Complemento + had + past participle

Se devi invertire la struttura si capisce dal verbo (di solito più lungo) o da un complemento di qualcuno che subisce (azione subita da)

| | |
|---|--|
| Present Continuous Active: <i>They are painting the school.</i> | Present Continuous Passive: <i>The school is being painted.</i> |
| Past Simple Active: <i>Audi made this car.</i> | Past Simple Passive: <i>This car was made by Audi.</i> |
| Past Continuous Active: <i>I was doing the report.</i> | Past Continuous Passive: <i>The report was being done.</i> |
| Present Perfect Active: <i>We have shipped the goods.</i> | Present Perfect Passive: <i>The goods have been shipped.</i> |
| Past Perfect Active: <i>He had already served dinner.</i> | Past Perfect Passive: <i>Dinner had already been served.</i> |
| Future Active: <i>The CEO will interview me next week.</i> | Future Passive: <i>I'll be interviewed by the CEO next week.</i> |
| Future Perfect Active: <i>They will have finished the work.</i> | Future Perfect Passive: <i>The work will have been finished.</i> |
| Be Going to Active: <i>They are going to televise the match.</i> | Be Going to Passive: <i>The match is going to be televised.</i> |