

★ Grammar ★

Forming the Past Continuous Tense

To form the verb in the Past Continuous Tense you need the correct form of 'to be' (was or were) and the -ing (Gerund) form of the verb.

I	was	reading a book.
He		watching TV.
She		going to the cinema.
It	were	playing basketball.
You		raining.
We		
They		

★ Spelling rules ★

- Mostly the verb gets an -ing in the Present Continuous Tense. E.g.: starting, playing, looking, skiing ...
- If the verb is monosyllabic, it ends with a vowel + consonant, and the vowel is short (pronunciation) then the consonant at the end of the verb doubles. E.g.: run → running
- If the verb ends with -l, it doubles. E.g.: travel → travelling
- If the verb ends in e, this letter disappears and add ing. Eg: write - writing



Past Continuous Tense

affirmative sentence

Task 1 - Form the Gerund form of the following verbs.

- get → **GETTING**
- lie → _____
- open → _____
- run → _____
- take → _____
- make → _____
- travel → _____
- cut → _____
- do → _____
- eat → _____



Task 2 - Fill in the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in the Past Continuous Tense.

- They **WERE SWIMMING** in the lake yesterday afternoon. (swim)
- He _____ on the coach. (sleep)
- I _____ a book. (read)
- We _____ breakfast at 7 am yesterday. (have)
- Sarah _____ the fence. (paint)
- The kids _____ the picture. (colour)
- You _____ about the accident. (talk)
- The dog _____ all last night. (bark)
- We _____ to the radio yesterday morning. (listen)
- Peter _____ his car last weekend. (wash)



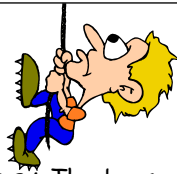
Task 3 - Write the correct forms (Past Continuous) of the verbs on the lines from this list.



- to cook
- to sing
- to drink
- to wash
- to hide
- to watch
- to plant
- to water
- to play
- to write



- When I saw him he **WAS DRINKING** some milk.
- You _____ football when you broke your leg.
- Steve _____ TV when the lights went out.
- We _____ when the guests arrived.
- Mum _____ up when someone knocked at the door.
- Nelly _____ songs on the concert.
- John and Jim _____ behind a tree when they were playing hide-and-seek.
- I _____ the flowers when you came in.
- You _____ a test at 10 am yesterday.
- They _____ some seedlings yesterday afternoon.



Task 4 - Rewrite the sentences into Past Continuous and use the given phrases.

e.g.: The boys are fighting in the schoolyard. (at 3 pm yesterday)

▶ The boys were fighting in the schoolyard at 3 pm yesterday.

- 1) They climbed the mountain. (when he fell off)
- 2) My dad's waiting for me. (at 4 pm yesterday)
- 3) You have a shower every day. (when the telephone rang)
- 4) I'll go home. (when I had a puncture)
- 5) The kids played in the sands. (yesterday)
- 6) You've put on some warm clothes. (when I came in)
- 7) Tom rides a bike on Mondays. (when I saw him)
- 8) They're cleaning the windows now. (when it started to rain)
- 9) He will take notes. (from 2 to 4 yesterday)
- 10) Mum's ironed the laundry. (yesterday afternoon)
- 11) The students studied Maths two days ago. (yesterday)
- 12) I am staying with my friend this week. (last week)

Task 5 - Write sentences using the given words and the verbs in Past Continuous.

e.g.: I * write * a letter * while * you * read.

▶ I was writing a letter while you were reading.

- 1) Mum * vacuum-clean * while * dad * wash * the car.
- 2) The kids * draw * pictures * while * the parents * do * the gardening.
- 3) Eve and Dora * skip * the rope * while * the others * play * hide-and-peek.
- 4) Marge * lie * in the sun * while * Dave * swim * in the sea.
- 5) John * build * a sandcastle * while * his mum * solve * crossword puzzles.
- 6) Sally * colour * some pictures * while * her sister * paint * a tree.
- 7) I * eat * some biscuits * while * I * wait * for you.
- 8) The dog * sleep * under the bed * while * Sue * bake * a cake.
- 9) It * get * dark * while * I * talk * on the phone.
- 10) Tim * play * the piano * while * his parents * listen * to it.
- 11) Mandy * tidy * the room * while * mum * wash * the clothes.
- 12) We * do * the homework * while * dad * watch * a football match.

