

# PAST CONTINUOUS

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## GRAMMAR

# STRUCTURE OF THE PAST CONTINUOUS

- First, you can watch the video:



# STRUCTURE OF THE PAST CONTINUOUS II

PAST CONTINUOUS	
<b>AFFIRMATIVE</b>	SUBJECT + WAS / WERE + V-ING Example: Yesterday at 9 I <u>was watching</u> a film. (=Ayer a las 9 <u>estaba viendo</u> una película.)
<b>NEGATIVE</b>	SUBJECT + WASN'T / WEREN'T + V-ING Example: Yesterday at 9 I <u>wasn't watching</u> a film. (=Ayer a las 9 <u>no estaba viendo</u> una película.)
<b>INTERROGATIVE</b>	WAS / WERE + SUBJECT + V-ING + ? Example: <u>Were you watching</u> a film yesterday at 9? (=¿Ayer a las 9 <u>estabas viendo</u> una película?)
<b>SHORT ANSWERS</b>	YES, SUBJECT + WAS / WERE NO, SUBJECT + WASN'T / WEREN'T Example: Yes, I was. / No, I wasn't.

# PAST CONTINUOUS: USE

We use the past continuous for:

- Actions in progress at a certain time in the past or a certain time in a story.

Example: Last Saturday at 2 I was having lunch with my parents. (El sábado pasado a las dos estaba comiendo con mis padres.)

- Parallel actions.

Example: I was eating a sandwich **while** my sister was playing the piano. (Estaba comiendo un bocadillo **mientras** mi hermana estaba tocando el piano.)

- Interrupted action in the past.

Example: I was riding my bike **when** I fell down and hurt my knee. (Estaba montando en bici **cuando** me caí y me hice daño en la rodilla.)

## LAST SATURDAY AT THE PARTY...

- Jason and Claire \_\_\_\_\_ (laugh).
- Tom \_\_\_\_\_ (sing).
- Dave, Jodie and Lucy \_\_\_\_\_ (dance).
- Helen and Eve \_\_\_\_\_ (eat pizza).
- Sam and Danny \_\_\_\_\_ (talk).



## LAST SATURDAY AT THE PARTY...

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- Jason and Claire **were laughing.**
- Tom **was singing.**
- Dave, Jodie and Lucy **were dancing.**
- Helen and Eve **were eating pizza.**
- Sam and Danny **were talking.**



# PAST SIMPLE VS PAST CONTINUOUS

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## GRAMMAR

# SIMPLE VS. CONTINUOUS

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## PAST SIMPLE (JUGUÉ)

- I played basketball yesterday.  
(Ayer jugué al baloncesto.)
- I didn't play basketball yesterday.  
(Ayer no jugué al baloncesto.)
- Did you play basketball yesterday?  
(¿Ayer jugaste al baloncesto?)

## PAST CONTINUOUS (ESTABA JUGANDO)

- Yesterday at 6 I was playing basketball.  
(Ayer a las 6 estaba jugando al baloncesto.)
- Yesterday at 6 I wasn't playing basketball.  
(Ayer a las 6 no estaba jugando al baloncesto.)
- Were you playing basketball yesterday at 6?  
(¿Ayer a las 6 estabas jugando al baloncesto?)



# SIMPLE VS. CONTINUOUS: USES

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## PAST SIMPLE

- Finished past actions:

Last week I visited my grandma.

- A series of finished actions:

Last night I arrived home, I had dinner and then, I went to bed.

## PAST CONTINUOUS

- Actions in progress at a certain time in the past or a certain time in a story.

Last night at 11 I was sleeping.

- Parallel actions:

I was sleeping while my sister was studying.

- Interrupted actions in the past:

I was having lunch when the phone rang.

# INTERRUPTED ACTIONS

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I was **having lunch** when the telephone **rang**.

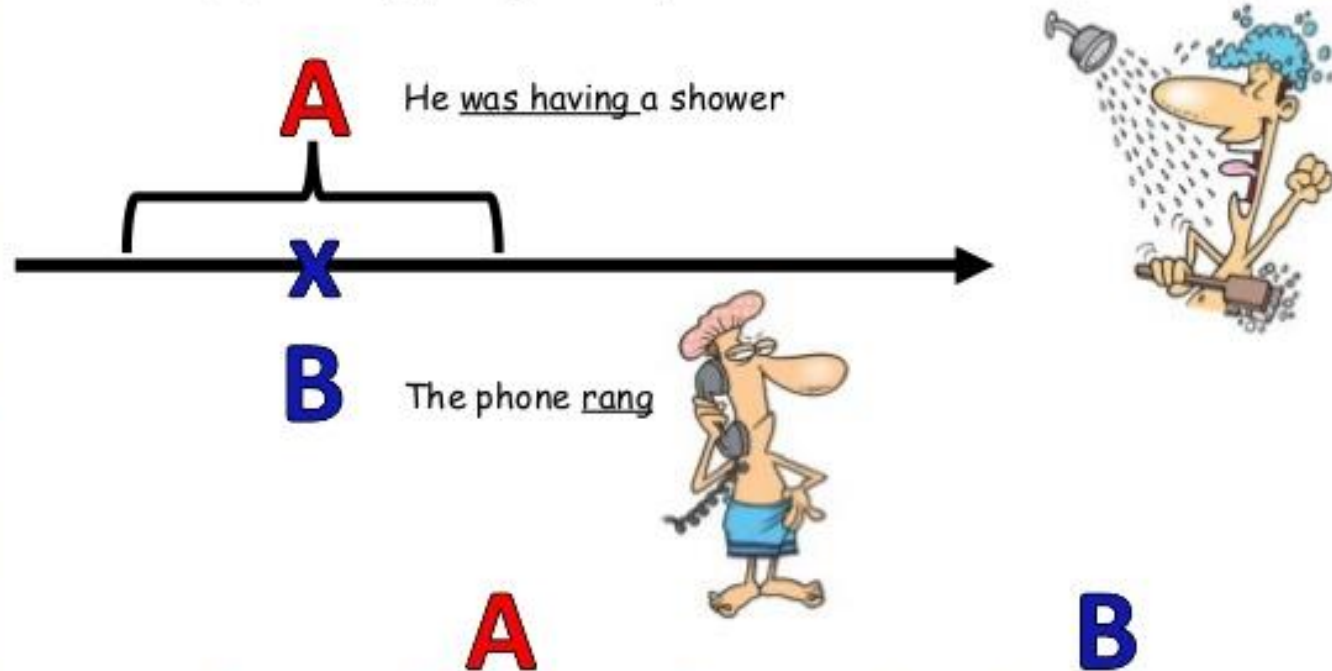
**Past continuous**

**past simple**

- We use **past continuous** for the long action that is interrupted. (Usamos el pasado continuo en la acción larga que es interrumpida.)
- We use the **past simple** for the short actions that interrupts the long action. (Usamos el pasado simple para la acción corta que interrumpe a la otra acción.)

## Past continuous-Past simple

An action (A) was happening in the past when an action (B) interrupted



WHILE he was having a shower, the the phone rang

He was having a shower, WHEN the the phone rang

# WHEN AND WHILE

'when' + short action (past simple tense)  
'while' + long action (past continuous tense)

I **was watching** TV when Jim **knocked** the door.

	I <b>was watching</b> TV	<b>when</b>	Jim <b>knocked</b> the door.
<b>When</b>	Jim <b>knocked</b> the door	,	I <b>was watching</b> TV
	Jim <b>knocked</b> the door	<b>while</b>	I <b>was watching</b> TV
<b>While</b>	I <b>was watching</b> TV	,	Jim <b>knocked</b> the door

# WHEN AND WHILE II

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- When (cuando) is used before the past simple.
- While (mientras) is used before past continuous.
- These are the possible structures:

## WHEN AND WHILE

WHEN + PAST SIMPLE + , + PAST CONTINUOUS.

When the phone rang, I was studying.

PAST CONTINUOUS + WHEN + PAST SIMPLE

I was studying when the phone rang.

WHILE + PAST CONTINUOUS + , + PAST SIMPLE

While I was studying, the telephone rang.

PAST SIMPLE + WHILE + PAST CONTINUOUS

The telephone rang while I was studying.

### **PARALLEL ACTIONS:**

PAST CONTINUOUS + WHILE + PAST CONTINUOUS

I was studying while my sister was sleeping.

# THE END

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