

## PAST CONTINUOUS

Il **past continuous** si usa per azioni che si stavano svolgendo in un certo momento del passato.

SI COSTRUISCE IN QUESTO MODO:

**SOGG + PAST SIMPLE DI TO BE (WAS/WERE) +  
VERBO BASE +ING+ RESTO F.**

es: **I was eating** when the phone rang.

- (+) I was sleeping
- you were playing tennis
- he was washing his car
- she was having a shower
- it was flying
- we were playing cards
- you were eating a hamburger
- they were watching TV.



I wasn't walking

you weren't listening

he wasn't playing the guitar

she wasn't doing her homework

it wasn't flying

we weren't working

you weren't swimming

they weren't cooking



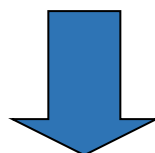
Was it snowing? → Yes, it was / No, it wasn't

es: Were you doing your homework at 7 o'clock last night?

Yes, I was

No, I wasn't

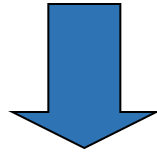
Il **past continuous** è spesso usato con il **past simple** per descrivere un'azione in corso che viene interrotta da un'altra azione espresso con il **past simple**.



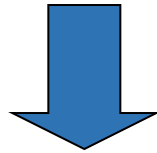
Per questo motivo ricorriamo a **WHEN** (quando) - **WHILE**  
(mentre) che collegano le due azioni

es: - she **was watching** TV **when** Kylie **phoned**

- **while** she **was watching** TV Kylie **phoned**



**WHEN** (quando) si usa **BEFORE** (prima) del **past simple**  
(azione che avviene in un preciso momento del passato)



**WHILE** (mentre) si usa **BEFORE** (prima) del **past continuous**  
(azione in svolgimento nel passato)

es: - I **was speaking** on my mobile phone **when** Andy **arrived**  
(stavo parlando al telefonino quando Andy è arrivata)

- **While** I **was speaking** on my mobile, Andy **arrived**

- We **were playing** football **when** Simon **broke** his leg

- **While** we **were playing** football Simon **broke** his leg