



Worksheet^{1#}

Name :

Subject: **Past simple and past continuous**

Class: **Grade 8**

Date: **27/10/2025**

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Differentiate between **Past Simple** and **Past Continuous** tense.
- Form and use both tenses accurately in affirmative, negative, and interrogative sentences.
- Identify and correct common errors.
- Use both tenses together to describe actions and events in the past.

Grammar Worksheet: Past Simple and Past Continuous

We use the **Past Simple** to describe:

- Completed actions in the past.
- Actions that happened at a specific time.

Form:

- **Regular verbs:** add **-ed** → *walk* → *walked*
- **Irregular verbs:** change form → *go* → *went*, *eat* → *ate*

Structure:

- **Affirmative:** Subject + Verb (past form)
She watched a movie yesterday.
- **Negative:** Subject + did not + base verb
She didn't watch a movie yesterday.
- **Question:** Did + Subject + base verb
Did she watch a movie yesterday?

Signal words: yesterday, last night, ago, in 2010, when I was a child, etc.

B. Past Continuous

We use the **Past Continuous** to describe:

- Actions that were **in progress** at a specific time in the past.
- Two or more actions happening **at the same time**.
- An **interrupted action** (used with Past Simple).

Form:

- **was/were + verb + -ing**

Structure:

- **Affirmative:** Subject + was/were + verb-ing
They were studying at 9 p.m.
- **Negative:** Subject + was/were + not + verb-ing
They weren't studying at 9 p.m.
- **Question:** Was/Were + Subject + verb-ing?
Were they studying at 9 p.m.?

Signal words: while, when, at that time, at 8 o'clock, as, during, etc.

2. Using Both Tenses Together

We often use **Past Continuous** and **Past Simple** together when:

- **Past Continuous** describes a longer action.
- **Past Simple** describes a shorter action that interrupts it.

Examples:

- *I was reading when the phone rang.*
- *They were playing football when it started to rain.*

3. Guided Practice

A. Choose the correct verb form:

1. When I _____ (arrive), they _____ (have) dinner.
2. She _____ (walk) to school when she _____ (see) an accident.
3. We _____ (watch) TV when the lights _____ (go) out.
4. He _____ (not finish) his homework last night.
5. What _____ you _____ (do) at 7 p.m. yesterday?

B. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets:

1. While I _____ (read), my brother _____ (play) video games.
2. The teacher _____ (explain) the lesson when the bell _____ (ring).
3. We _____ (not go) to the party because we _____ (be) tired.
4. I _____ (cook) dinner when my friend _____ (call) me.
5. It _____ (rain) heavily all night.

4. Challenge Section

A. Error Correction

Identify and correct the mistakes:

1. He was play football when he broke his leg.

2. We didn't was studying last night.

3. While they ate dinner, someone was knocking at the door.

4. Did you were watching the movie yesterday?

5. I was reading a book when suddenly the lights goes out.

B. Write your own sentences

1. Write **two sentences** using both tenses to describe an interrupted action.
(Example: *I was sleeping when the alarm rang.*)

5. Quick Quiz

Choose the correct answer:

1. While she _____ dinner, the phone rang.
a) cooked b) was cooking
2. I _____ my keys yesterday.
a) lose b) lost c) was losing
3. They _____ when it started to rain.
a) played b) were playing
4. _____ You _____ TV when I called?
a) Were / watching b) Did / watch
5. What _____ you _____ at 9 p.m. last night?
a) were / doing b) did / do
