

Past continuous

Focus: past continuous: was / were + -ing, negatives, questions and short answers; -ing spelling

PAST CONTINUOUS

An action in progress at a past time: **was / were + verb + -ing**.

I **was waiting**. He **wasn't** driving. **Was** she sleeping? Yes, she was.

What **were** you doing? Spelling: sitting, driving, lying, carrying.

1 Complete the table with the -ing form.

Example: wait → waiting

Verb	-ing form	Verb	-ing form
run	_____	make	_____
sit	_____	write	_____
stop	_____	lie	_____
swim	_____	carry	_____

2 Complete with the past continuous. Use short forms.

Example: At six o'clock I _____ (cook) dinner. → was cooking

- At eight o'clock yesterday we _____ (drive) to Tbilisi.
- Sara _____ (not / listen). She _____ (look) at her phone.
- We _____ (not / work) yesterday afternoon. It was a holiday.
- They _____ (wait) for the bus at seven. It _____ (rain).
- Ken _____ (carry) two boxes and his wife _____ (open) the door.
- _____ (you / sleep) at midnight? No, I _____. I was reading.

3 Put the words in order to make questions.

Example: were / what / doing / you / ? → What were you doing?

- was / it / raining / at ten o'clock / ?

- were / where / going / they / ?

ANSWER KEY

1 1 running, 2 making, 3 sitting, 4 writing, 5 stopping, 6 lying, 7 swimming, 8 carrying 2 1 were driving, 2 wasn't listening / was looking, 3 weren't working, 4 were waiting / was raining, 5 was carrying / was opening, 6 Were you sleeping / wasn't 3 1 Was it raining at ten o'clock? | 2 Where were they going?