PAST CONTINUOUS

O passado contínuo, também conhecido como o passado progressivo, refere-se a uma **ação ou estado contínuo que estava acontecendo em algum momento no passado**.

Também pode ser utilizado para **descrever algo que estava acontecendo continuamente no passado**, quando outra ação interrompeu essa ação que estava em progresso
- I was making dinner when she arrived.
- The students were talking very loudly when the professor arrived.

O passado contínuo é usado para **enfatizar** o que estava acontecendo num momento preciso do passado.
- At 6 o'clock, I was eating dinner.
- Fred was studying in his room all afternoon yesterday.
- The children were doing their homework when I got home.

É muito comum no **início de uma história**:
- The other day I was waiting for a bus when I remembered that I had to go to the supermaket...
- Last week, as I was driving to work, ...

Por algo que **aconteceu de novo e de novo**:
- I was practicing every day, three times a day.
- They were meeting secretly after school.
- The neighbor dogs were always barking.

Com verbos que mostram **mudança ou crescimento**:
- The children were growing up quickly.
- Her English was improving.
- My hair was going gray.
- The town was changing quickly.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Embora as irregularidades sejam poucas, **nem todos os verbos** são adequados para descrever uma ação contínua. Certos verbos não podem ser usados no passado contínuo. Um exemplo comum é o verbo to arrive.

- At noon, he was arriving. (wrong)
- At noon, he arrived. (correct)

O passado contínuo é feito a partir do passado do verbo BE+ VERB "-ING". Veja o quadro abaixo com os verbos work, walk e eat.

Affirmative

	To Be (past simple)	WORK	WALK	EAT
I	was	working	walking	eating
You	were	working	walking	eating
She	was	working	walking	eating
He	was	working	walking	eating
It	was	working	walking	eating
We	were	working	walking	eating
You	were	working	walking	eating
They	were	working	walking	eating

Para colocarmos as frases no negativo, precisamos acrescentar o "not" ao verb to be.

Negative

	To Be + not (past simple)	WORK	WALK	EAT
I	was not	working	walking	eating
You	were not	working	walking	eating
She	was not	working	walking	eating
He	was not	working	walking	eating
It	was not	working	walking	eating
We	were not	working	walking	eating
You	were not	working	walking	eating
They	were not	working	walking	eating

Important note

Para contrairmos, juntamos o "not" à forma no passado, tiramos a letra "o" e colocamos um apóstrofo no lugar: WAS NOT = WASN'T e WERE NOT = WEREN'T.

As formas *wasn't* and *weren't* são comumente utilizadas em inglês falado. Os falantes nativos também usam estas contrações em mensagens de texto.

Para fazermos pergunta, da mesma maneira como fazemos com o verb to be no presente, vamos **inverter a ordem da frase**, para ficar claro que estamos fazendo uma pergunta.

To Be (past simple)		WORK	WALK	EAT
Were	you	working?	walking?	eating?
Was	I	working?	walking?	eating?
Was	she	working?	walking?	eating?
Was	he	working?	walking?	eating?
Was	it	working?	walking?	eating?
Were	you	working?	walking?	eating?
Were	we	working?	walking?	eating?
Were	they	working?	walking?	eating?

Interrogative

When e While

Ação longa (watching TV), expressa com o Passado Contínuo
- I was watching TV from 7pm to 9 pm.

Ação curta (telephoned), expressa com Past Simple
- You phoned at 8pm.
(destacar When e While nas frases abaixo)

Podemos **juntar** as frases:
- I was watching TV **when** you phoned.
- You phoned **while** I was watching TV.

Nós usamos:
- when + ação curta (Past Simple)
- while + ação longa (Passado Contínuo)