



The past simple in English is a verb tense that is used to talk about actions that took place in the past and have already ended.

#### Types of verbs by their simple past

- If the verb is regular, the past tense is formed by adding the ending -d -ed to the end of the word depending on whether the word ends in a vowel or a consonant, respectively. As an additional rule, if the word ends in y, this consonant is replaced by the ending -ied.
- If the verb is irregular, the appropriate conjugation must be used in each case, as it varies for each word.

(YOU WILL FIND A LIST OF REGULAR AND IRREGULAR VERBS IN OUR MENU)



# STRUCTURE OF THE PAST SIMPLE



#### **Affirmative**

Subject + verb + complement

·I finished packing my bags. (Terminé de empacar mis maletas)

#### Negative

To form negative sentences we use the auxiliary verb to do in the past tense, on which the negation falls (did not, or didn't in abbreviated form).

Subject + did not (didn't) + verb + complement

·The birds didn't sing this morning because of the rain. (Los pájaros no cantaron esta mañana debido a la lluvia)

#### Interrogative

To construct interrogative sentences, we again use the past form of the verb to do, which is placed before the subject.

Did/Didn't + subject + verb + complement + ?

·Did Sarah arrive at school on time? (¿Llegó Sarah a tiempo a la escuela?)

## STRUCTURE OF THE PAST SIMPLE

**EXAMPLES** 



- My student did his homework. (My estudiante hizo su tarea)
- I didn't cook the meal for tonight. (Yo no cociné la cena para esta noche)
- Did they paint in art class? (¿Pintaron en la clase de artes?)
- She walked to school this morning. (Ella caminó a la escuela esta mañana)





It is the verb tense that indicates actions or situations that happened in the past and whose duration was or is relevant. The main characteristic to use it and identify it within a sentence is when the main verb has the ending -ing (-ando - endo in Spanish) and is preceded by the auxiliary verbs was or were.

Let's look at the 3 cases in which the past continuous can be used in English.

Case 1. One action interrupts another.

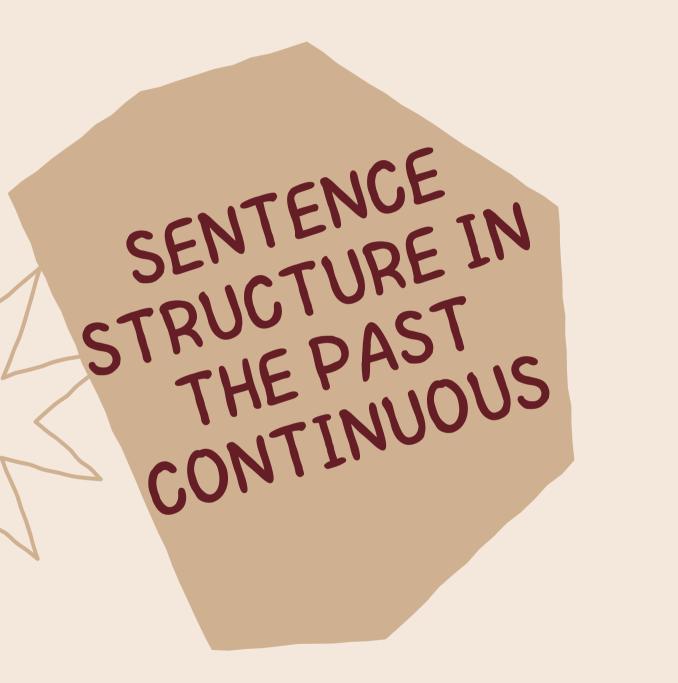
• She was singing when the telephone rang = Ella estaba cantando cuando el teléfono sonó

Case 2. Two or more simultaneous situations or actions.

• While we were painting they were cleaning = Mientras nosotros estábamos pintando ellos estaban limpiando

Case 3. To give context or emphasis to a situation or action.

- Between 1904 and 1905 Russia and Japan were fighting a war
- = Entre 1904 y 1905 Rusia y Japón estaban librando una guerra



#### **Affirmative**

Subject + auxiliary verb (to be) + main verb in gerund (-ing) + complement.

•The boys were winning the game until the storm came = Los chicos estaban ganando el juego cuando llegó la tormenta

#### Negative

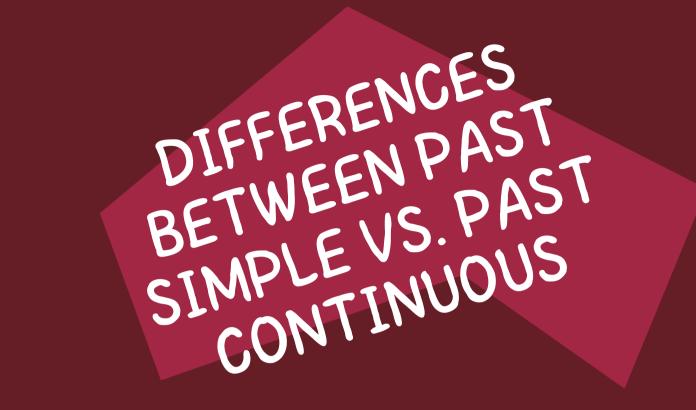
Subject + auxiliary verb (to be) + not + main verb in gerund (-ing) + complement

·She was not singing, she was screaming = Ella no estaba cantando, estaba gritando

#### Interrogative

Auxiliary verb (to be) + subject + main verb in gerund (-ing) + complement + ?

·Was he waiting for you? = ¿Él te estaba esperando?



Past simple: Used to describe situations that began and ended in the past

**Past Continuous:** Used to emphasize when an action in the past is interrupted by another action in the past





- 1. As soon as we \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) there, we \_\_\_\_ (meet) her. Tan pronto como nosotras/os (llegar) allí, la (encontrar).
- 2. I \_\_\_\_\_ (sleep) when she \_\_\_\_\_ (call). Yo (dormir) cuando ella (llamar).
- 3. While I \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) to my mom, we \_\_\_\_ (heard) a big noise outside. Mientras yo (hablar) con mi madre, nosotras/os (oír) un fuerte ruido fuera.

## EXCERCISES

ANSWERS

1.

2.

3.

Arrived/met
Was sleeping/called
Was talking/Heard



### VIDEO LINKS

#### Simple past

https://youtu.be/DQlzxDz5T0w?si=wU8dY7XElvFn6xGb

#### Past continuous

https://youtu.be/WdhwwqVaFLc?si=z9R4rK6FlvL\_qPF-

## Difference between continuous and simple past

https://youtu.be/VLj-Dbz-CWk?si=uunlsEGyE-gExpUf





### **THANK YOU**

