

# Past Progressive

## PAST PROGRESSIVE

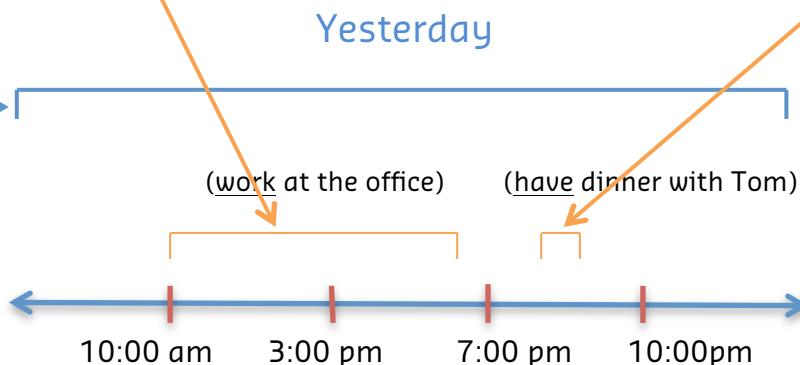
You have learned that **simple past** is useful when you need to express that an action took place in the past. Therefore, you will commonly use past time expressions such as in (1992), two months ago, yesterday, etc.

Nevertheless, when you need to express an ongoing (in progress) event taking place inside another determined period of time in the past, you will preferably use **Past Progressive**.

Imagine the blue line represents **yesterday**. Observe that this period of time contains moments inside of itself (at 10:00 am, for example).

Yesterday I **had** a busy day.

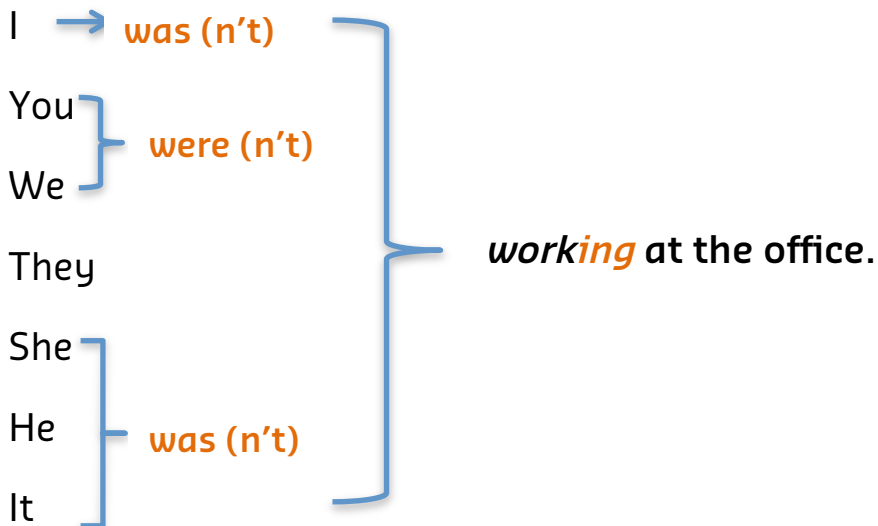
At 10:00 am I **was working** at the office; and at 8:30 I **was having** dinner with Tom...



# Past Progressive

- The sentence “Yesterday I **had** a busy day” is in simple past.
- The sentences “I **was** **working**” and “I **was** **having** dinner” explain actions going in progress inside the day. They are in past progressive.

This is the structure of affirmative and negative past progressive. Notice the verb to be in past is used, followed by a verb ending in -ing.

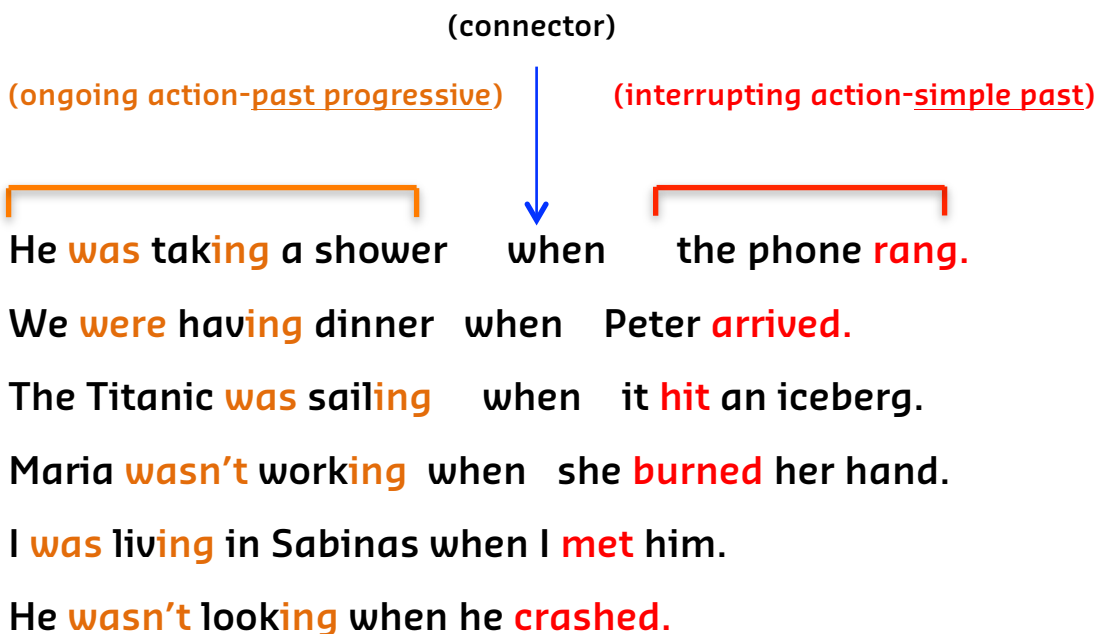


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## COMBINING SIMPLE PAST WITH PRESENT PROGRESSIVE

It is possible to use both simple past and past progressive to indicate how an ongoing activity in the past was interrupted by another action. In these cases, you can use connectors like when or while.

Look at the example below.



When two ongoing actions occur at the same time, use the connector while.

