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We use the **Past Continuous** to talk about actions or events happening at a particular moment in the past – focusing on the activity in progress.

via http://begin-english.ru/article/the-past-continuous/

Questions in Past Continuous

To make questions in the Past Continuous, put '**was'/'were**' **before the subject** and add the '-ing' form of the verb:

- *What **were** you **doing** when you broke your leg?*
- *I **was snowboarding**.*

Yes/No questions

To create a question that will be answered with a 'yes' or 'no', use '**was**' / '**were**' (or '**wasn't**' / '**weren't**' for a negative question) + -ing verb.

Singular   Plural

Was I **singing**?   *Were* we **singing**?
Were you **singing**?   *Were* you **singing**?
Was he/she/it **singing**? *Were* they **singing**?

- *Was* it **snowing** *yesterday at 5 o'clock?*
- *Were* you still **skating** *in the park when Jemma called you?*
- *Were* the boys **working** *in the garden when their uncle came round for a coffee?*

Note: In *short positive answers* to the Past Continuous questions we use only full forms of 'was'/'were'. In *short negative answers* we can also use short forms of was/were.

- *– **Was** he **playing** football at that moment?*
- *– Yes, he **was** (No, he **wasn't**).*

- *– **Were** they **staying** with their parents?*
- *– Yes, they **were** (No, they **weren't**).*

Special questions

Special questions (also known as wh-questions) are questions that require more information in their answers. They are made using [wh- words](#) such as **what, where, when, why, which, who, how, how many, how much**.

To make a special question, use the same word order as with yes-no questions but put a wh-word before the verb 'was' or 'were'. The structure is:

wh-word + was/were + [subject] + -ing verb

- *What **was** she **thinking** about last night? She looked worried.*
- *What music **were** they **listening to**?*
- *Why **were** they **drinking** champagne yesterday?*

Negative forms of Past Continuous

To make negative statements in the Past Continuous, we use:

was/were + not + the "-ing" form of the verb

Singular   Plural

*I **was not (wasn't) talking*** *We **were not (weren't) talking***
*You **were not talking*** *You **(weren't) talking***
*He/she/it **was not talking*** *They **(weren't) talking***

- *Peter **wasn't doing** his homework when his father came in.*
- *Rebecca was angry with her children because they **weren'tsleeping** when she arrived.*

Check out this video from Ustazy to summarize different forms of Past Continuous tense:

See also:

[Past Continuous: Statements](#)

[Past Continuous Passive](#)