

# PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE

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# Formation

- I                    was                    **eating**                    pizza.
- You                    were                    **eating**                    pizza.
- We                    were                    **eating**                    pizza.
- He/She/It                    was                    **eating**                    pizza.
  
- Subject    +                    was +                    **verb+-ing**    ...

# Other forms

- Negative

I **was not (wasn't)** eating pizza.

You **were not (weren't)** eating pizza.

She **was not (wasn't)** eating pizza.

- Interrogative/Question

**Was** I eating pizza?

**Were** you eating pizza?

**Was** he eating pizza?

# Suffix -ing

- speak + -ing → speak**ing**
- (ending in e)  
like + -ing (no final e) → lik**ing**  
but  
be + -ing → be**ing**
- (ending in consonant after a short vowel)  
cut + -ing → cut**ting**
- (ending in ie)  
die + -ing → dy**ing**

# Usage

- **Events in the definite past**

I was watching TV yesterday.

They were listening to their teacher.

- **Emphasis on duration**

I was staying with my aunt all week.

She was reading a really good book during her English lesson.

- **Definite past**

= **whatever answers the question WHEN?**

# Key words

- last week/month/year/century/...
- (number) hours/days/weeks/years/... Ago
- yesterday
- past dates
- subordinate clauses of time  
*I was working as a bellboy last summer.*
- for (for duration in the past)  
Sheila was preparing pizza for two hours.