Past Simple

Statements Questions Negations

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| I worked very hard yesterday. He went to school by car | Did you work hard, too?  Did he go to school on foot? | No, I didn’t work hard.  No,he didn’t. |
| I lived in that house when I was younger. | When did you live in that house? | I lived in that house when I was younger. |
| John rode his bike to school on Monday | Did John ride his bike to school on Tuesday, too? | Yes, he did. |
| I ate salad for dinner. | What did you eat for dinner? | I ate salad for dinner. |
| I played basketball two days ago. | Did you play tennis last week? | I didn’t play tennis last week |
| He liked to play tennis. | Did he like to play chess,too? | He didn’t . |

USE

We use the simple past tense to talk about an action, a situation or an event, short or long, that

• happened in the past

• is completely finished

• we say (or understand) the time and/or place it happened.

Past Continuous

Statements Questions Negations

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| I/ he/ she /it was playing in the garden | Was he playing in the garden? | No, he wasn’t. |
| We, You, they were playing games at 6o’clock yesterday | Were you playing tennis at 6:00 yesterday. | Yes, I was. |
| He was studying Maths at 5:00 yesterday | Was he / she studying Maths? | No, he was watching TV at 5:00 yesterday. |
| They were playing football. | Were you / they playing football? | No, we were playing chess. |

USE

The Past Continuous tense expresses an action that happened at a particular moment in

the past and it continued for some time.

e.g.I was doing my homework at 6.00 in the evening.

They were not playing football at 9am this morning.

What were you doing at 10pm last night?

Tony went home early because it was snowing.

USE

We often use the Past Continuous tense with the Simple Past tense.

We use the PastContinuous tense to express a long- lasting action. And we use the Simple Past tense to express a short-lasting action that happens in the middle of the long action. We can join the two ideas with

when or while.

We use:

• when + short action (Simple Past tense)(-ed/2nd column)

• While/As + long action (Past Continuous tense)

EXAMPLES

I was watching TV [when the telephone rang].

When the telephone rang, I was watching TV.

The telephone rang {while I was watching TV.}

While I was watching TV, the telephone rang.