



Grammar



Forming the Past Continuous Tense

was not / were not + the -ing (Gerund) form of the verb.

I He She It	was not / wasn't	reading a book. watching TV.
You We They	were not / weren't	going to the cinema.

Past Continuous - Negative Sentences

Task 1 - Fill in the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in the Past Continuous Tense.

- 1) You _____ the walls of his house yesterday. (not paint)
- 2) Mavis _____ a horse when she broke her arm. (not ride)
- 3) The two men _____ heavy boxes yesterday afternoon. (not carry)
- 4) I _____ when you woke me up. (not dream)
- 5) Larry _____ his teeth at 7 yesterday. (not clean)
- 6) They _____ when I came in. (not work)
- 7) The dog _____ on the bed last night. (not sleep)
- 8) Mr Green _____ my hair at 5 yesterday. (not cut)
- 9) It _____ cold when I closed the window. (not get)
- 10) The family _____ lunch when the postman came. (not have)



Task 2 - Write sentences using the given words and the verbs in Past Continuous. Be careful not all the verbs are in negative.

e.g.: I * not write * a letter * while * you * read.

► I wasn't writing a letter while you were reading.

- 1) They * not learn * while * their mum * cook.



- 2) While * his tooth * ache * John * not eat * anything.

- 3) I * not ask * too much * while * the policeman * question * me.

- 4) The children * not play * football * while * they * stay * on the playground.

- 5) I * put * the books * on the shelf * while * you * not do * anything.

- 6) Dad * not take * the medicine * while * Mum * have * a shower.

- 7) The cat * not drink * any milk * while * they * look at * it.

- 8) While *you * drive * home * it * not rain.

- 9) Ms Johnson * not check * her e-mails * while * she * baby-sit * little George.

- 10) You * not write * anything * while * the teacher * explain * the grammar.



Task 3 - Write the correct forms (Past Continuous) of the verbs on the lines from this list.

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| ▪ not buy | ▪ not push |
| ▪ not fight | ▪ not scrub |
| ▪ not listen | ▪ not set |
| ▪ not make | ▪ not think |
| ▪ not plan | ▪ not wait |

- 1) James _____ to the news when Emma phoned him.
- 2) My family _____ for me when I arrived home.
- 3) Joan _____ of the solution when I asked her.
- 4) The maid _____ the beds when Jake came in.
- 5) I _____ the floor.
- 6) We _____ the presents at 5 o'clock yesterday.
- 7) Anne _____ the table while mum was cooking lunch.
- 8) Dave _____ anything when Joe asked him.
- 9) The two men _____ when the police arrived.
- 10) Sally _____ the trolley when we met in the supermarket.

Task 4 - Find and correct the mistakes.

- 1) Sam was diging in the garden.
- 2) The kids wasn't walking all day long.
- 3) I wasn't wearring my favourite T-shirt when we met.
- 4) The fire didn't burning at 5 o'clock two days ago.
- 5) The dog weren't barking at this time last night.
- 6) The shop assistant wasn't counted the goods.
- 7) They weren't siting on a bench in the park.
- 8) James wasn't triing to find a new flat.
- 9) My neighbour isn't knocking on the door when I arrived home.
- 10) I wasn't changing my clothes when you entered the room.

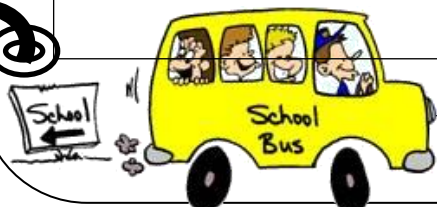
Task 5 -First make the sentences negative. Then rewrite them with the given information. Look at the example.



e.g.: Mike was sleeping in his bed. (on the bus)

► Mike wasn't sleeping in his bed. He was sleeping on the bus.

- 1) The teacher was teaching the students. (correct the tests)
- 2) I was skating on the lake. (swim in it)
- 3) You were opening the door. (close the window)
- 4) We were going to school. (travel to Paris)
- 5) They were drinking some juice. (have dinner)
- 6) Sally was eating her mum's soup. (pizza)
- 7) Tim and Brad were buying some food. (play tennis)
- 8) Sue was greeting her parents. (hug)
- 9) My parents were selecting the things in our garage. (paint the walls)



Key

Task 1

- 1) You **weren't painting** the walls of his house yesterday.
- 2) Mavis **wasn't riding** a horse when she broke her arm.
- 3) The two men **weren't carrying** heavy boxes yesterday afternoon.
- 4) I **wasn't dreaming** when you woke me up.
- 5) Larry **wasn't cleaning** his teeth at 7 yesterday.
- 6) They **weren't working** when I came in.
- 7) The dog **wasn't sleeping** on the bed last night.
- 8) Mr Green **wasn't cutting** my hair at 5 yesterday.
- 9) It **wasn't getting** cold when I closed the window.
- 10) The family **wasn't having** lunch when the postman came.

Task 2

- 1) They didn't learn while their mum was cooking.
- 2) While his tooth was aching, John didn't eat anything.
- 3) I didn't ask too much while the policeman was questioning me.
- 4) The children didn't play football while they were staying on the playground.
- 5) I put the books on the shelf while you weren't doing anything.
- 6) Dad didn't take the medicine while Mum was having a shower.
- 7) The cat didn't any milk while they were looking at it.
- 8) While you were driving home it wasn't raining.
- 9) Ms Johnson didn't check her e-mails while she was baby-sitting little George.
- 10) You didn't write anything while the teacher was explaining the grammar.

Task 3

- 1) James **wasn't listening** to the news when Emma phoned him.
- 2) My family **wasn't waiting** for me when I arrived home.
- 3) Joan **wasn't thinking** of the solution when I asked her.
- 4) The maid **wasn't making** the beds when Jake came in.
- 5) I **wasn't scrubbing** the floor.
- 6) We **weren't buying** the presents at 5 o'clock yesterday.
- 7) Anne **didn't set** the table while mum was cooking lunch.
- 8) Dave **wasn't planning** anything when Joe asked him.
- 9) The two men **weren't fighting** when the police arrived.
- 10) Sally **wasn't pushing** the trolley when we met in the supermarket.

Task 4 The right sentences

- 1) Sam was **digging** in the garden.
- 2) The kids **weren't** walking all day long.
- 3) I wasn't **wearing** my favourite T-shirt when we met.
- 4) The fire **wasn't** burning at 5 o'clock two days ago.
- 5) The dog **wasn't** barking at this time last night.
- 6) The shop assistant wasn't **counting** the goods.
- 7) They weren't **sitting** on a bench in the park.
- 8) James wasn't **trying** to find a new flat.
- 9) My neighbour **wasn't** knocking on the door when I arrived home.
- 10) I wasn't **changing** my clothes when you entered the room.

Task 5

- 1) The teacher wasn't teaching the students. She was correcting the tests.
- 2) I wasn't skating on the lake. I was swimming in it.
- 3) You weren't opening the door. You were closing the window.
- 4) We weren't going to school. We were travelling to Paris.
- 5) They weren't drinking some juice. They were having dinner.
- 6) Sally wasn't eating her mum's soup. Sally was eating her mum's pizza.
- 7) Tim and Brad weren't buying some food. Tim and Brad were playing tennis.
- 8) Sue wasn't greeting her parents. Sue was hugging them.
- 9) My parents weren't selecting the things in our garage. My parents were painting the walls.

