



كلية : الاداب

القسم او الفرع : اللغة الانكليزية

المرحلة: الاولى

أستاذ المادة : د. محمد يحيى عبدالله

اسم المادة باللغة العربية : النحو الانكليزي

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اسم المحاضرة الثالثة باللغة الإنكليزية: Past and Continuous past (I wad doing)

simple (I did)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart **was** an Austrian musician and composer. He **lived** from 1756 to 1791. He **started** composing at the age of five and **wrote** more than 600 pieces of music. He **was** only 35 years old when he **died**.

lived/started/wrote/was/died are all **past simple**

Very often the past simple ends in -ed (regular verbs):

I **work** in a travel agency now. Before that I **worked** in a department store.

They **invited** us to their party, but we **decided** not to go.

The police **stopped** me on my way home last night.

Laura **passed** her exam because she **studied** very hard.

For spelling (**stopped**, **studied** etc.), see Appendix 6.

But many verbs are irregular. The past simple does not end in -ed. For example:

write → wrote

see → saw

go → went

shut → shut

Mozart **wrote** more than 600 pieces of music.

We **saw** Alice in town a few days ago.

I **went** to the cinema three times last week.

It **was** cold, so I **shut** the window.

In questions and negative sentences, we use **did/didn't + infinitive** (enjoy/see/go etc.):

I **enjoyed** the party a lot. **Did you enjoy** it?
How many people **did they invite** to the wedding?
I **didn't buy** anything because I **didn't have** any money.
'**Did you go out?**' 'No, **I didn't.**'

Sometimes **do** is the main verb in the sentence (**did you do?**, **I didn't do**):

What **did you do** at the weekend? (not What did you at the weekend?)

I **didn't do** anything. (not I didn't anything)

The **past** of **be** (am/is/are) is **was/were**:

I **was** annoyed because they were late.

Was the weather good when you were on holiday?

They **weren't able** to come because they were so busy.

I **wasn't hungry**, so I **didn't eat** anything.

Did you go out last night or **were you too** tired?

Past continuous (I was doing)

Yesterday Karen and Joe **played** tennis. They **started** at 10 o'clock and finished at 11.30. So, at 10.30 they **were playing** tennis.
they **were playing** = they **were** in the middle of playing; they **had not finished**.

was/were + -ing is the past continuous:

he/she/it **was playing** - doing
we/you/they **were working** etc.

was doing something = I was in the middle of doing it at a certain time. The action or situation started before this time, but had not finished:

I started doing

I was doing

I finished doing

This time last year I **was living** in Hong Kong.
What **were you doing** at 10 o'clock last night?
I **waved** to Helen, but she **wasn't looking**.

Compare **I was doing** (past continuous) and **I did** (past simple):

I was doing (= in the middle of an action) **I did** (= complete action)
We **were walking** home when I **met** Dan. (in the middle of walking home)

We **walked** home after the party last night. (= **all the way, completely**)
Kate **was watching** TV when we **arrived**.

Kate **watched** TV a lot when she **was** ill last year.

You can say that something happened (**past simple**) **in the middle of something else (past continuous)**:

Matt **phoned** while we **were having** dinner.

It **was raining** when I **got up**.

I **saw** you in the park yesterday. You **were sitting** on the grass and reading a book.

I **hurt** my back while I **was working** in the garden.

But we use the past simple to say that one thing happened after another:

I **was walking** along the road when I **saw** Dan. So I **stopped**, and we **talked** for a while.

Exercises

Put the verb into the correct form, past continuous or past simple.

- 1 Jenny **was waiting** (wait) for me when I **arrived** (arrive).
- 2 ‘What (you / do) at this time yesterday?’ ‘I was asleep.’
- 3 ‘(you / go) out last night?’ ‘No, I was too tired.’
- 4 How fast (you / drive) when the accident (happen)?
- 5 Sam (take) a picture of me while I (not / look).
- 6 We were in a very difficult position. We (not / know) what to do, so we (do) nothing.
- 7 I haven’t seen Alan for ages. When I last (see) him, he (try) to find a job.
- 8 I (walk) along the street when suddenly I (hear) something behind me. Somebody (follow) me. I was scared and I (start) to run.
- 9 When I was young, I (want) to be a pilot. Later I (change) my mind.
- 10 Last night I (drop) a plate when I (do) the washing up. Fortunately it (not / break).