Практичне заняття 26\_20.05.2022

Murphy Raymond. English Grammar in Use. A self-study reference and practice book for intermediate students. – Cambridge University Press. – 347 p.

Class-work. Present Continuous and Present Simple. Past Simple. Past Continuous. Unit 3–6 p. 6–13.

Past Continuous

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Form | I/ he/ she/ it **was** work**ing** yesterday  You/ we/ they **were** work**ing** yesterday  I/ he/ she/ it **wasn’t** working yesterday  You/ we/ they **weren’t** working yesterday  **Was** I/ he/ she/ it working yesterday? – Yes, I was.  **Were** You/ we/ they working yesterday? – No, we weren’t. |
| Use | •to talk about background action  *It was a beautiful day - the sun* ***was shining*** *and the birds* ***were singing****.*  Note the combination of description (past continuous) with narrative (simple past) |
| •to talk about a longer background action in the past when a shorter action interrupts it or happens during it.  *We* ***were talking*** *about you when* ***you rang****.* |
| •to talk about repeated actions in the past that take place over a temporary period of time.  *People* ***were coming in*** *all day to buy this item.* |
| •to emphasize the duration or continuity of a past action.  *For the whole of last month we* ***were trying*** *to solve this same problem.* |
| •Past continuous with *always*:  for a frequency repeated action, usually when the frequency annoys the speaker or seems unreasonable to him  *Tom was always going away for weekends.*  for an action which appears to be continuous  *He was always working* |

We don’t use state verbs in Past Continuous.

Verbs of the senses: feel, hear, see, smell;

Verbs expressing feelings and emotions: admire, adore, appreciate, care for, desire, detest, dislike, fear, hate, like, loathe, love, mind, respect, value, want, wish.

Verbs of mental activity: agree, appreciate, assume, believe, expect, feel, feel sure/certain, forget, know, mean, perceive, realize, recall, recognize, recollect, remember, suppose, think, trust, understand.

Verbs of possession: belong, owe, own, possess

Past continuous as an alternative to the simple past

The past continuous can be used as an alternative to the simple past to indicate a more casual, less deliberate action:

*I was talking to Tom the other day.*

The past continuous here gives the impression that the action was in no way unusual or remarkable. It also tends to remove responsibility from the subject. In the above example it is not clear who started the conversation, and it does not matter. Note the contrast with the simple past tense, *I* *talked to Tom,* which indicates that I took the initiative. Similarly:

*From four to six Tom was washing the car.*

This would indicate that this was a casual, possibly routine action. Compare with:

*From four to six Tom washed the car.* (implying a deliberate action by Tom)

Note that continuous tenses are used only for apparently continuous uninterrupted actions. If we divide the action up, or say how many times it happened, we must use the simple past:

*I* *talked to Tom several times. Tom washed both cars.*

But we may, of course, use the continuous for apparently parallel actions:

*Between one and two I was doing the shopping and walking the dog.*

This tense is normally used in this way with a time expression such as *today, last night, in the afternoon,* which could either be regarded as points in time or as periods. Periods can also be indicated by exact times as shown above.

In questions about how a period was spent, the continuous often appears more polite than the simple past: *What were you doing before you came here?* sounds more polite than *What did you do before you came here?*

On the other hand, *What were you doing in my room?* could indicate a feeling that I think you had no right to be there, while *What did you do in my room?* could never give this impression.

Past Simple

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Form | I/ he/ she/ it/ you/ we/ they work**ed** yesterday  It **was** a beautiful day / **were**  Cats **caught** mice.  I **didn’t** work yesterday  It **wasn’t** a beautiful day / **weren’t**  Cats **didn’t** catch mice.  **Did** she work yesterday? – Yes, she did.  **Was** it a beautiful day? Where **were** you yesterday?  **Did** cats catch mice? |
| Use | •describe actions and states in a completed period of time. We know when the action happened, and this may be mentioned or clear from the situation. |
| • for a past action when the time is given:  I met him yesterday. Pasteur died in 1895. |
| • when the time is asked about:  *When did you meet him?* |
| • when the action clearly took place at a definite time even though this time is not mentioned:  *The train was ten minutes late.*  *How did you get your present job?*  *I bought this car in Montreal.* |
| • sometimes the time becomes definite as a result of a question and answer in the present perfect:  *Where have you been? ~ I've been to the opera. ~ Did you enjoy it?* |
| •used for an action whose time is not given but which (a) occupied a period of time now terminated, or (b) occurred at a moment in a period of time now terminated.  Examples of type (a):  *He worked in that bank for four years.* (but he does not work there now)  *She lived in Rome for a long time,* (but she is not living there now)  Examples of type (b):  *My grandmother once saw Queen Victoria.*  *Did you ever hear Maria Callas sing?* |
| •used for a past habit:  *He always carried an umbrella. They never drank wine.* |

Exercise 1. Put the verbs in brackets into the simple past or past continuous tense.

1 Mr Smith never (wake) up in time in the mornings and always (get) into trouble for being late; so one day he (go) to town and (buy) an alarm clock.

2 To get home he (have to) go through a field where a bad-tempered bull usually (graze).

3 This bull normally (not chase) people unless something (make) him angry. Unfortunately, as Mr Smith (cross) the field, his alarm clock (go) off.

4 This (annoy) the bull, who immediately (begin) to chase Mr Smith.

5 Mr Smith (carry) an open umbrella as it (rain) slightly. He (throw) the umbrella to the ground and (run) away as fast as he could.

6 The bull (stop) and (begin) to attack the umbrella. While he (do) this Mr Smith escaped.

7 When he (awake) she (sit) by the window. She (look) at something in the street, but when he (call) her she (turn) and (smile) at him.

8 Why you (interrupt) me just now? I (have) a very interesting conversation with Mr Pitt.

9 The murderer (carry) the corpse down the stairs when he (hear) a knock on the door.

10 When I (look) through your books I (notice) that you have a copy of *Murder in the Cathedral.*

11 As they (walk) along the road they (hear) a car coming from behind them. Tom (turn) round and (hold) up his hand. The car (stop).

12 When I (arrive) at the station Mary (wait) for me. She (wear) a blue dress and (look) very pretty. As soon as she (see) me she (wave) and (shout) something, but I couldn't hear what she (say) because everybody (make) such a noise.

13 The prisoner (escape) by climbing the wall of the garden where he (work). He (wear) blue overalls and black shoes.

14 She said that the car (travel) at 40 k.p.h. when it (begin) to skid.

15 She said that she (not like) her present flat and (try) to find another.

16 While he (make) his speech the minister suddenly (feel) faint. But someone (bring) him a glass of water and after a few minutes he (be able) to continue.

17 When I (see) him he (paint) a portrait of his wife. ~

You (like) it? ~  
He only just (start) when I (see) it, so I couldn't judge.

18 I (take) my friend to a murder trial the other day. ~  
Who (be) tried?-  
A man called Bill Sykes. ~  
Was he acquitted? —  
I don't know. They still (listen) to the evidence when we (leave).

19 I (be) sorry that I (have to) leave the party early, because I (enjoy) myself.

20 As we (come) here a policeman (stop) us. He (say) that he (look) for some stolen property and (ask) if he could search the car.

21 I (see) you yesterday from the bus. Why you (use) a stick? ~

I (use) a stick because I had hurt my leg that morning falling off a horse. ~

Whose horse you (ride)?

22 The floor was covered with balls of wool. Obviously Mrs Pitt (knit) something.

23 Ann said that she (be) on holiday. I (say) that I (hope) that she (enjoy) herself.

24 While he (water) the flowers it (begin) to rain. He (put) up his umbrella and (go) on watering.

25 I just (write) a cheque when I (remember) that I (have) nothing in the bank.

26 I (find) this ring as I (dig) in the garden. It looks very old. I wonder who it (belong) to?

27 When I last (see) her she (hurry) along the road to the station. I (ask) her where she (go) and she (say), 'London', but I don't think she (speak) the truth because there (not be) any train for London at that time.

28 The tailor said, 'Your suit will be ready on Monday.' But when I (call) on Monday he still (work) on it.

29 The teacher (come) into the classroom unusually early and one of the boys, who (smoke) a cigarette, (have) no time to put it out. So he (throw) it into the desk and (hope) for the best.

30 A little later the teacher (notice) that smoke (rise) from this desk.

'You (smoke) when I (come) in?' he (ask).