

Grammatica: PAST CONTINUOUS

Past

Present

Future



Il Past Progressive (o Past Continuous) si forma come il Present Progressive, utilizzando cioè la -ing form del verbo, preceduta dalle forme di *to be*, in questo caso al passato.

La **forma interrogativa, negativa, interrogativo-negativa**, le contrazioni e le **short answers** (risposte brevi) si formano come per il passato del verbo *to be*.

WAS/WERE + -ING FORM

FORMA AFFERMATIVA

I was going
you were going
he was going
she was going
it was going
we were going
you were going
they were going

FORMA INTERROGATIVA

was I going?
were you going?
was he going?
was she going?
was it going?
were we going?
were you going?
were they going?

FORMA NEGATIVA

I was not going
you were not going
he was not going
she was not going
it was not going
we were not going
you were not going
they were not going

FORMA NEGATIVA CONTRATTA

I wasn't going
you weren't going
he wasn't going
she wasn't going
it wasn't going
we weren't going
you weren't going
they weren't going

FORMA INTERR. NEGATIVA

wasn't I going?
weren't you going?
wasn't he going?
wasn't she going?
wasn't it going?
weren't we going?
weren't you going?
weren't they going?

USI DEL PAST PROGRESSIVE

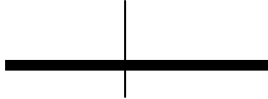
Il Past Progressive indica un'azione che si stava svolgendo in un determinato momento del passato.

a. In generale ha gli stessi usi del passato progressivo italiano (stare + gerundio):

- azione in svolgimento nel passato
e.g. Tom was in the garden. He was watering the flowers.



- azione lunga in svolgimento interrotta da un'altra breve.
e.g. I was having a shower when the phone rang.
While I was having a shower, the phone rang.



- due azioni contemporanee della stessa durata, collegate da while.
e.g. James was playing the piano, while Carol was painting.



b. Inoltre in inglese viene usato per indicare:

- un'azione abituale in presenza di always, se questa ha, in genere, una connotazione negativa.
e.g. He was a bore. He was always talking about himself.
- un'azione futura nel passato.
e.g. My father said he was going to see my teachers next week.