

Name: Date:

The past progressive tense is used to describe an action that was ongoing at some point in the past:

He **was playing** in the garden.

It can also be used to describe an action taking place while another occurred:

While they **were painting** the door, I **ainted** the windows.

Or:

While they **were painting** the door, I **was painting** the windows.

The past progressive tense is formed as follows:

was (singular) or **were** (plural) + **verb + ing**



Re-write the sentences below in the past progressive tense:

1. The sun shone and it made me smile.

.....

2. While I dressed I wondered what to have for breakfast.

.....

3. He mowed the lawn as she weeded the flowerbeds.

.....

4. The children worked hard to get extra playtime.

.....

5. They played football for ages.

.....

Re-write these sentences using the negative form of the past progressive tense:

6. He did not drink his lemonade.

.....

7. They did not misbehave after all.

.....

8. She had not cleaned her room when her mum went to check.

.....

9. I did not ride my bike because it rained.

.....

10. Tom had not finished his homework when his mum came home.

.....

Now write four of your own past progressive sentences, two of which should be negative.

1.

.....

2.

.....

3.

.....

4.

.....

Ready for more? Can you write a question in the past progressive tense?

.....

.....

Answers

1. The sun **was shining** and it made me smile.
2. While I **was dressing** I **was wondering** what to have for breakfast.
3. He **was mowing** the lawn as she **was weeding** the flowerbeds.
4. The children **were working** hard to get extra playtime.
5. They **were playing** football for ages.
6. They **weren't drinking** their lemonade.
7. They **weren't misbehaving** after all.
8. She **wasn't cleaning** her room when her mum went to check.
9. I **wasn't riding** my bike because it **was raining**.
10. Tom **wasn't finishing** his homework when his mum came home.

Examples for four sentences:

1. They **were swimming** and I **was watching** them.
2. I **was smiling** whilst I **was eating** my ice-cream.
3. She **wasn't cleaning** her teeth effectively.
4. They **weren't listening** to their teacher.