

CORE ED

Stage 5 Lesson 283

**Past continuous
Particular**

**I was speaking
while**

Remember:

We use the present continuous for an action that is in progress now.

For example, "I am speaking English now".

We use the past continuous for an action that was in progress at a particular time in the past.

For example, "I was speaking English at this time yesterday". If I say "I was sleeping at 4 o'clock this morning", it means that I went to sleep before 4 o'clock and I woke up after 4 o'clock; at 4 o'clock, I was in the middle of a period of sleeping.

CORE ED Stage 5

When do we use the present continuous?

We use the present continuous for an action that is in progress now

Give me an example, please.

I am speaking English now.

When do we use the past continuous?

We use the past continuous for an action that was in progress at a particular time in the past.

Give me an example, please.

I was speaking English at this time yesterday.

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Stage 5 Lesson

Remember:

The most common use of the past continuous is to say that an action was in progress when another action happened.

For example, "I was cooking lunch when she arrived" means that, when she arrived, I was in the middle of cooking lunch.

Were you talking to anybody when I came into the room at the beginning of the lesson?

Yes, I was... when you ...;

- No, I wasn't... when you ...

Were the students standing or sitting when I left the classroom at the end of the last lesson?

The students were ...

when you left the classroom .

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Stage 5 Lesson

Was it raining while you were coming to school today?

Yes, it was raining while I was coming ...

~ No, it wasn't raining while I was coming ...

What were you doing at this time last Sunday?

I was.... at this time last Sunday

Do you think most people in this town were sleeping at midnight last night?

Yes, I think...