

Past Continuous

We use the Past Continuous to express an action that was taking place in certain point in the past:

I was reading a book at 7 o'clock yesterday morning.

We also use this tense to express an action that was taking place in the past and that was interrupted by some other action in the past. This other action is expressed by Simple Past:

I was reading a book when the telephone rang.

We also use this tense to express two actions taking place at the same time in the past. In this case Past Continuous is signaled by *while*:

While I was washing the dishes, my sister was doing her homework.

1 What were they doing at 8 o'clock yesterday morning? Complete the sentences with the appropriate form of verbs in brackets using the Past Continuous.

1 He _____ (make) pancakes.

2 Mr James _____ (read) a story to his grandson.

3 Thomas _____ (talk) on the phone with his mother.

4 Jason _____ (sunbathe).

5 Jane and Mike _____ (get) married.

6 Mary _____ (play) golf.

7 Tom _____ (babysit) his sister's son.

8 Tom's brother _____ (play) the trumpet.

9 Gertrude _____ (prepare) for the concert.

10 Mike _____ (listen) to the music.

11 Our postman _____ (run) away from the dog.

12 Jake _____ (read) newspaper.

13 Nicky _____ (have) her hair done.

14 Tim _____ (eat) a big sandwich.

15 Tim's wife _____ (iron) the clothes.

16 Steve _____ (paint) the room.

17 Little Jim _____ (learn) to swim.

18 Mr Smith _____ (plant) trees.

