

PAST SIMPLE	PAST CONTINUOUS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for past, completed actions , when the time is mentioned <i>They went camping by the lake last month.</i> - for actions which happened immediately one after the other <i>She paid the driver and left the taxi.</i> - for past habits and states Kevin smoked a lot in the past. <i>The cars were slower in the past.</i> <p><i>Susan worked 20 hours last Monday.</i> <i>Did Susan work 20 hours last Monday?</i> <i>Susan did not work 20 hours last Monday.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for an action in progress in the past <i>Mary was driving home at midnight.</i> - for an action which was in progress when another action interrupted <i>I was talking on the phone when the battery went flat.</i> - to describe atmosphere, setting <i>The clouds were covering the sky and it was getting dark.</i> <p><i>Susan was working really hard all summer.</i> <i>Was Susan working really hard all summer?</i> <i>Susan was not working all summer.</i></p>

1. It was 4 pm when the marathon runner **approached / was approaching** the stadium, the spectators **cheered and clapped / were cheering and clapping** their hands. The atmosphere was amazing.
2. He **turned / was turning** down the music and **started / was starting** working on his project.
3. When Tim **began / was beginning** an interview with a famous musician, the microphones in the studio **stopped / were stopping** working.
4. A criminal **tied / was tying** a kidnapped woman to a tree and **left / was leaving**.
5. While a criminal **tied / was tying** a woman to a tree, the police **arrived / were arriving**.
6. It was Lorie's wedding. She **wore / was wearing** an incredible dress and **smiled / was smiling**. Everybody **waited / was waiting** for the ceremony to begin.
7. Why **did you smack / were you smacking** your child in the face?
8. Kevin **abandoned / was abandoning** his family a few years ago.
9. They **planned / were planning** their journey all weekend.
10. Tim always **believed / was believing** in everything and he never **expressed / was expressing** any doubts.
11. While a doctor **examined / was examining** a patient, he **spotted / was spotting** many worrying symptoms.
12. What charity **did the president's wife found / was the president's wife founding**?
13. He **did not achieve / wasn't achieving** anything when he was young.
14. The sea was rough. The huge waves **crashed / were crushing** onto the boat while the sailors **tried / were trying** to fight with the storm.
15. When **did France establish / was France establishing** diplomatic relations with Ghana?
16. When Susan **watched / was watching** a movie she **fell / was falling** asleep.
17. Someone **began / was beginning** shooting when the sportsmen **boarded / were boarding** a plane.

18. I **did not make / was not making** an impression on my boss during our last meeting.
19. The boys from the 8th grade **teased / were teasing** Ann all school year.
20. What time **did you set off / were you setting off** for Rome?
21. The ballet dancer **tripped / was tripping** when she **turned / was turning**.
22. When I **fed / was feeding** a dog it **bit / was biting** me.
23. He **did not remember / was not remembering** where he **lost / was losing** his passport.
24. A young mother **panicked / was panicking** as her little baby girl **cried / was crying** louder and louder.

KEY

1. It was 4 pm when the marathon runner **approached / was approaching (both options are correct)** the stadium, the spectators **cheered and clapped / were cheering and clapping** their hands. The atmosphere was amazing.
2. He **turned / was turning** down the music and **started / was starting** working on his project.
3. When Tim **began / was beginning** an interview with a famous musician, the microphones in the studio **stopped / were stopping** working.
4. A criminal **tied / was tying** a kidnapped woman to a tree and **left / was leaving**.
5. While a criminal **tied / was tying** a woman to a tree, the police **arrived / were arriving**.
6. It was Lorie's wedding. She **wore / was wearing** an incredible dress and **smiled / was smiling**. Everybody **waited / was waiting** for the ceremony to begin.
7. Why **did you smack / were you smacking** your child in the face?
8. Kevin **abandoned / was abandoning** his family a few years ago.
9. They **planned / were planning** their journey all weekend.
10. Tim always **believed / was believing** in everything and he never **expressed / was expressing** any doubts.
11. While a doctor **examined / was examining** a patient, he **spotted / was spotting** many worrying symptoms.
12. What charity **did the president's wife found / was the president's wife founding**?
13. He **did not achieve / wasn't achieving** anything when he was young.
14. The sea was rough. The huge waves **crashed / were crushing** onto the boat while the sailors **tried / were trying** to fight with the storm.
15. When **did France establish / was France establishing** diplomatic relations with Ghana?
16. When Susan **watched / was watching** a movie she **fell / was falling** asleep.
17. Someone **began / was beginning** shooting when the sportsmen **boarded / were boarding** (both answers are possible) a plane.
18. I **did not make / was not making** an impression on my boss during our last meeting.
19. The boys from the 8th grade **teased / were teasing** Ann all school year.

20. What time **did you set off / were you setting off** for Rome?
21. The ballet dancer **tripped / was tripping** when she **turned / was turning**.
22. When I **fed / was feeding** a dog it **bit / was biting** me.
23. He **did not remember / was not remembering** where he **lost / was losing** his passport.
24. A young mother **panicked / was panicking** (both answers are possible) as her little baby girl **cried / was crying** louder and louder.