

THEME 3 LEGENDARY FIGURE GRAMMAR

1. PAST FORM OF “TO BE”

The past tense of “BE” is used:

1. Before nouns.

His father was a businessman.

Ephesus was a city once upon a time.

They were students.

2. Before adjectives.

She was happy last night.

Ahmet and Orhan were very naughty when they were at school.

He was very handsome and she was very beautiful when they were young.

3. Before a prepositional phrase

They were in the living room .

She wasn't at home.

I was at the bus stop.

4. to indicate age , size , distance , area , weights ... etc

He was ninety when he died.

She was about six feet tall.

The two cities were ten kilometres away from each other.

Where were you last night? I was at home

How old were you two years ago? I was twenty ten.

Where were you born? I was born in Demirci

2. PAST SIMPLE TENSE

We use it to describe completed actions in the past. (We usually mention the time.)

Affirmative sentences

I played basketball yesterday.

Frank studied maths last weekend.

We went to the checkout, paid and then left the department store.

I finished school two years ago.

Negative sentences

I didn't watch TV yesterday afternoon.

You didn't go jogging last Sunday.

They didn't phone their relatives.

Questions

Did you see Tim last night?

Did Mr. Stone buy that car yesterday?

What did they do after the earthquake?

3. PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE

We use it to describe actions in progress at a certain time in the past.

Affirmative sentences:

I was sleeping at 10:30 last night.

We were sunbathing at 2 p.m. yesterday.

Negative sentences:

He wasn't driving fast at the time of the accident.

They weren't cycling at 5 p.m. last Friday.

Questions:

Were you watching TV at 9 a.m. yesterday?

What was he doing when you saw him?

4. THE PAST SIMPLE AND PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE

- We often use the simple past tense and the past continuous tense together in a sentence.
- We use the past continuous tense for the longer, unfinished action and the simple past tense for the shorter, interrupting action.
- We use *when*, *while*, *as*, *just as* to join the sentences.

when = at that time

while / as = during that time

While / as + past continuous, past simple

While I was trying to put my baby to sleep, the doorbell rang.

As I was walking along the street, it suddenly started to rain.

Someone knocked the door while the teacher was checking our exam papers.

When + past simple, past continuous

When I saw Sue, I was waiting for the bus.

- We also use the past continuous with “*while*” to talk about two actions in progress at the same time in the past.

My mother was chopping the meat while I was peeling the potatoes.

- We use the simple past tense with “*when*” to say that one thing happened after another.

When my father arrived, we had our dinner. (First my father arrived and then we started to have our dinner).

Attention: We don't use the past continuous tense with stative verbs (know, want, love etc...)

They were good friends. They knew each other well.

Attention: “*Just as*” has similar meaning with *while* and *as*, but if the interrupting, shorter event happens right after the longer one, we prefer *just as* instead of *as* or *while*.

Just as I was leaving home, I realised that I had forgotten my car key.