PAST CONTINUOUS (PC)

a EXAMPLES

AFFIRMATIVE	You were studying Maths.	She was working in the office.
NEGATIVE	We weren't playing cards.	He wasn't having a shower.
INTERROGATIVE	What were you doing last night?	Were yo∪ watching tv?
SHORT ANSWER	Yes, I was	No, I wasn't

b Structure

AFFIRMATIVE	subject + was /were + verb-ing + complements
NEGATIVE	subject + wasn't / weren't + verb-ing + compl.
INTERROGATIVE	Was /were + subject + verb-ing + compl.?
SHORT ANSWER	Yes, subject (pronoun) + was /were
	No, subject (pronoun) + wasn't / weren't

c USES

1. ACTIONS IN PROGRESS IN THE PAST

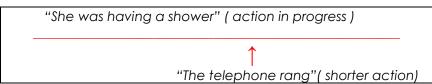
- My brother was listening to music yesterday afternoon.
- We were having dinner last night at nine o'clock.

2. TWO SIMULTANEOUS ACTIONS

- I was buying in the supermarket while my brother was cooking. (PC + PC)

3. ACTION IN PROGRESS INTERRUPTED BY A SHORT ACTION

- She **was having a shower** <u>when</u> the telephone rang. (PC + PS)



- They were playing tennis when it started to rain.
- I saw Peter while he **was running** in the park.
- While we were watching the football match the light went out.
- As she was walking, a stranger took her handbag.

d TIME EXPRESSIONS

- Time expressions with PAST REFERENCE
- while/ as = mientras + Past Continuous

While he was cooking, he heard the news

While we were having dinner, the neighbour knocked on the door.

- when= cuando + Past Simple

He was cooking when \underline{when} he heard the news.

We were having dinner when suddenly the neighbour knocked on the door.

PRACTICE		
1. While they (wallk)	down the street, it (start)	
to rain.		
2. The sun (come out)	while we (play))	_ football.
3. I (read)	$_$ in bed when the light suddenly (go out) $___$	·
4. (She/watch)	when you (arrive) ?	
5. Peter and Paul (drive) _	very fast when they (have) _	
and accident.		
6. Her husband (sit)	on the sofa when she (arrive)	