The Past Progressive Tense

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The past progressive tense is a form of the past tense that is used to show that something happened in the past for a period of time. It is formed by using 'was' or 'were' followed by the form of the verb that ends in -ing e.g. Dad was painting the fence all day. The children were waiting.

1) Tick the sentences that are written in the past progressive tense.

We were talking to our neighbours.	
Gran weeded the garden.	
He was playing with his train set.	
Lucas chopped the vegetables for dinner.	
Abdul was playing the drums when his brother came home.	
It was raining every day during our holiday to Cornwall.	
The footballers trained hard for their match.	
They were baking cakes all afternoon for the party.	

2) Choose 'was' or 'were' to correctly complete each of the sentences below.

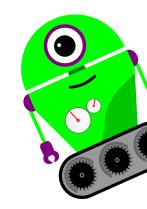
The girls _____ skipping in the playground.

The children ____ reading their books.

Jess ____ doing her homework until late last night.

Mum ____ driving from Plymouth to Bristol.

I _____ swimming in the warm sea.



3) Complete the sentences below using the past progressive form of the verb in brackets.

Leon ______ the shopping when he tripped over. (carry)

The Marrs family ______ their favourite television show. (watch)

The thieves _____ priceless paintings from the art gallery. (steal)

We _____ lunch when the doorbell rang. (eat)

I _____ photographs of the flowers. (take)

