# Progressive form of verbs: Present and past progressive (continuous)



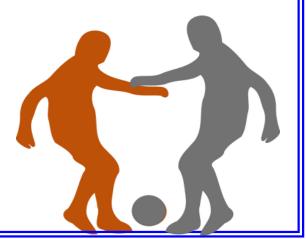
She was running.

Alice is balancing.

They are playing.









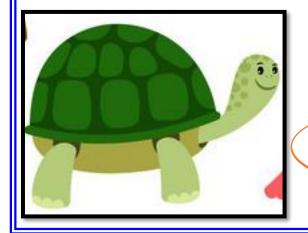
## The progressive form is continuous.

It suggests that the action progresses, for a period of time,

Tom's tortoise was waiting for his lettuce.

or progresses at the time something else happens or happened.

Tom's tortoise was waiting when he saw the lawnmower.



This can be in the **present** (happening now)

WOW!
It has missed me!

or in the **past** (happened then).

## Progressive form of verbs: present and past progressive



#### Past progressive

He was walking

She was running

The dog was whining

We were listening

#### **Present**

He walks

She runs

The dog whines

We listen

#### **Present progressive**

He is walking

She is running

The dog is whining

We are listening

## Progressive form of verbs: past progressive



leap

Think of a sentence which shows that the children *did* this verb **for a while**.





Hint: use were

Can you use past progressive form?

The children leapt.

The children were leaping.

This **past progressive** form shows the action **continued** for a while.

The children were leaping about when the teacher opened the classroom door.

## Progressive form of verbs: past progressive



quarrel

Think of a sentence which shows that we *did* this verb when the teacher arrived.

We quarrelled.

Hint: use

were

We were quarrelling when the teacher arrived.



This **past progressive** form shows the action **continued** when something else occurred.

The children were quarrelling about the snake!

## Choosing past simple or past progressive form



Would this be a short action or a longer one?

The whole class is having its best ever day.

The whole class had its best ever day.

Which verb form sounds longer?

The whole class was having its best ever day.

How would you write this in the past form?

A day takes a while so the past progressive form is best.



### To make verbs progressive:

- Add one of... is, are, am, was, were
- Use -ing participle of the verb

Present progressive

Past progressive

She makes a mess.

She is making a mess.

She was making a mess.

He chirps softly.

auxiliary verb indicates the tense

He is chirping softly. He was chirping softly.

They fly around.

They are flying around.

They were flying around.

Try changing these verb forms to present and past progressive.