PAST CONTINUOUS (PAST PROGRESSIVE)

1. USAGE (Verwendung)

PAST CONTINUOUS (PROGRESSIVE) verwendet man, wenn man von einer abgeschlossenen Handlung spricht,

- die zu einem bestimmten Zeitpunkt in der Vergangenheit stattgefunden hat. Dieser Zeitpunkt muss angegeben werden!
- die durch eine kürzere Handlung unterbrochen wird.
- die sehr lange angedauert hat, und dies betont werden soll.

2. STATEMENTS

Bildung: WAS/WERE + -ING

I was washing the dishes when the others were watching TV.

You were taking a bath when your friends called.

She was copying her homework when the teacher entered the room.

We were watching TV when our parents came home.

Yesterday at 8. p.m. they were listening to the news.

3. NEGATION: WAS/WERE NOT + -ING

I was not washing the dishes when the others were watching TV.

You were not taking a bath when your friends called, were you?

She was not copying her homework when the teacher entered the room.

We were not watching TV when our parents came home.

Yesterday at 8. p.m. they were not listening to the news, but to some opera.

4. ASKING QUESTIONS: Man braucht keine Form von do, da man das Hilfszeitwort was bzw. were hat, das die Stelle von do einnimmt.

Who was washing the dishes when we were watching TV? (Frage nach dem Subjekt)
When were they watching the news? (Subjekt steht zwischen was/were und –ing)