Easy Access English

AND SHE WAS

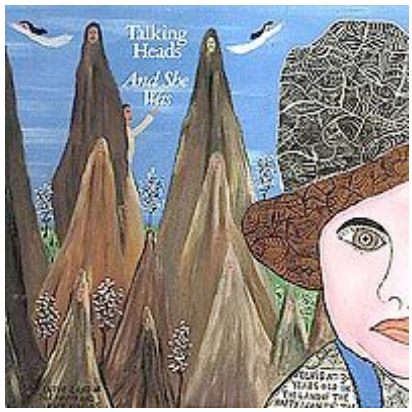
Activity One – let's read this informaton about - The Past Continuous in English

Forms

Affirmative
I was doing
You were doing
He/she/it was doing
We were doing
You were doing *(plural)*
They were doing

Negative
I was not doing
You were not doing
He/she/it was not doing
We were not doing
You were not doing
They were not doing

Question
Was I doing?
Were you doing?
Was he/she/it doing?
Were we doing?
Were you doing?
Were they doing?



Functions and examples

1. We use the past continuous to say that an action was in progress at a particular time in the past. The action had already started at this time, but had not finished.

I **was having** dinner at 6pm last night.
What **were** you **doing** at midnight last night?

2. We use the past continuous to say that an action was in progress at every moment during a period of time.

You **were working** all day yesterday, weren't you?
I **was playing** football all day yesterday.

3. We use the past continuous together with the past simple. The past continuous refers to a "longer" or "background" action that was in progress; the past simple refers to a shorter action that interrupted the longer action, or happened in the middle of it.

He **was walking** to work when he met John.
She **was eating** when the phone rang.
While I **was working** in the garden, I heard a woman scream.

4. We use the past continuous to say that an action in the past was temporary.

You **were working** in the Sales Department last month, weren't you?
They **were living** in Paris for a year.

5. We use the past continuous with words such as **always** to talk about things that happened repeatedly.Grandpa **was** always **telling** us funny stories about his life and cracking jokes.

Important points - We do not normally use some verbs in the past continuous tense, because these verbs are not normally action verbs. These verbs include: *believe, belong, depend, hate, know, like, love, mean, need, prefer, realise, suppose, want, understand*.They **knew** each other very well.
They **were knowing** each other very well.

Activity Two – Listen to the song, fill the gaps.

And She Was (lyrics)

And she was ……. in the grass
and she could hear the highway breathing.
And she could see a nearby factory

She's making sure she is not dreaming.
See the lights of a neighbor's house
now she's starting to rise.
Take a minute to concentrate and she opens up her eyes.

The world was moving

she was right there with it and she was -
The world was moving

she was floatin' above it and she was - and she was.

And she was drifting through the backyard

And she was ……. off her dress.
And she was ……. very slowly
……. up above the earth.
……. into the universe and she's drifting this way and that.
Not ……. the ground at all and she's up above the yard.
The world was …….
she was right there with it and she was -
The world was …….
she was ……. above it and she was -

And she was glad about it
no doubt about it

She isn't sure about what she's done

No time to think about what to tell them

No time to think about what she's done and she was -

And she was ……. at herself

and things were looking like a movie.
She had a pleasant elevation

she's ……. out in all directions.

The world was …….

she was right there with it and she was -
The world was moving

she was ……. above it and she was -
……. the world of missing persons and she was -
……. enough to feel alright and she was - and she was -
And she was - and she was - and she was - and she was - and she was.

Activity Three – Watch the video and prepare to answer the following questions :

1. Was was happening in the sky ?
2. What different objects could you see in the sky ?
3. What were the people in the houses doing ?
4. What was the man on tv saying ?
5. What was the canary riding on ?
6. What was everyone looking up at ?
7. What was in the center of all the swirling objects ?
8. What was on the floating table ?
9. What was the letter box doing ?
10. What was that all about ?

Activity Four – Consequences – You will each write a sentence following this first one. At then end of the activity we will read the story.

I was walking along the street yesterday when…

Activity Five – Wall dictation.
This is a race between teams.
You must take turns with your partner running between the desk and the wall dictation and dictating passages of the text to your partner. The winning team are the couple who finish the quickest with the least written mistakes.

Activity Six – Role Plays

A/ You are a detective trying to find out who stole some money from a local shop. You ask a suspect some questions about what he was doing yesterday around seven pm.

B/ You were in fact seeing your mistress yesterday afternoon around seven so you can't tell the truth.

A/ You are a jealous girlfriend. Your best friend thinks she saw your boyfriend out with another girl yesterday lunchtime in a restaurant. You ask your boyfriend what he was doing around twelve thirty yesterday….

B/ You are the boyfriend, in fact you were having lunch with your secretary yesterday when your girlfriends best friend went past.

A/ Your daughter's school telephoned to ask why she didn't go to school today. You had seen her to the bus stop this morning. You ask her what she was doing today.

B/ You went to the beach to go surfing today instead of going to school.

Activity Seven – You Tube - Beginning Middle and End (Classic Sesame Street)

Watch the video.

Does it remind you of the other video ?

What reminds you of it ?

What happens to Seymore in the story ?

What does this video say about stories in general ?

Activity Eight – Write your own story using a beginning middle and end and using the past simple and past continuous.