**Unit 3 / Tenses – Past Simple** and **Past Continuousالماضي البسيط و الماضي المُستمر**

**3. 1 / Past Simple**

The Past Simple Tense – This Tense is used to express an action or activity

that happened or occurred in past.

In order to form Or (write) the verb in the past, we have to know that the English verbs are of two kinds: regular verbsالأفعال القياسية &Irregular verbsالأفعال الشاذة

With the regular verbs, **the past tense** is formed by adding (-ed) or only (-d) to the base of the verb. Besides the past tense and past participle have the same form.

Examples: call ----call**ed** / finish ---- finish**ed** / happen ---- happen**ed /** want**يُريد** ---- wanted

live ---- liv**d** / complete ----- complete**d /**like ---- like**d**

play ---- play**ed /**stay ------ stay**ed**

carry ---- carr**ies /** study ----- stud**ies**

**\*** As with the **irregular verbs** the case is different**,** as some of the verbs follow **a variation**of conjugation**تصريفالأفعال** as in the attached list.القائمة المُرفقة

**The adverbs of time** that come with this tense are:

ago / last year / last week / last Sunday / last month / last century / last night / last ……

in 2008 / in 1988 / in the previous day / the day before yesterday / once upon a time /

once …etc.

**2. 2 / The Past Continuous Tenseالماضي المُستمر**

The past continuous tense, also known as the past progressive tense.

When to use the Past continuous tense . This tense is used:

1. to refer to a continuing action or state that was happening at some point in the past and continued for a certain time in the past.

The **past continuous**is formed from the past tense of verbs to be+ the -ing form of the verb(i.e. the main verb + ing):

----->**S.**الفاعل))**+[**be (**was** or **were** ) + the**present participle ]+** ………….

**Example**: I **was eating**dinner at 8 o’clockyesterday evening.

The children were sleeping yesterday evening.

This time last year they were was living in London.

1. Also, we can use **the past continuous** for the background of a story: i.e. when more than one actions happened in the past (one **in progress**مُستمرwhile the other **interrupted** itقاطعهُ). Usually we use with this case the two words '**while**' and '**when**'.We put or write the verb in progress in the continuous tense, i.e. ( [was or were] + **the main verb + ing**)

While the **interrupted verb**is put or written in **the past simple** (regular or irregular)

**Examples:**(a)-We **were sleeping**when the earth quake **happened**.

Or we can say ------> When the earth quake **happened**, we **were sleeping**.

(b)-While theboys **were playing**tennis it **started** to rain.

Or we can say -----> It started to rain while the boys were playing tennis.

(c)-I was walking home when I met my old friend Sarah.

Or we can say ----->I met my old friend Sarah while I was walking home.

The students **were making** noise when their teacher **came**.

Interrogative form ----> Were the students making noise when their teacher came?الإستفهام

Negative form ----->The students were **not**making noise when their teacher came.النفي

3. To emphasize that something lasted for a while. This use is often optional and we usually use it with time expressions like **'all day'** or **'all evening'** or **'for hours'**.

Examples: We**were working** in the garden all day.

He **was reading**all evening.

Exercise

**Q. /** Fill in the blanks with **past simple** and **past continuous** to complete the following sentences:

1. We **were watching**TV. when we **heard**a loud noise**.**(**watch / hear**)
2. When we …………………………..a loud noise, we …………………………….TV**.**(**hear / watch**)
3. The children ……………………………. when their father……………………**.** (**not –sleep / arrive**)
4. When the police …………………………..the door, they ……………………….dinner**.** (**knock / have**)
5. While she ………………………………………., she ………………………the lost ring**.** (**work / find**)
6. …………………………..in the garden when it …………………………….to rain**?** (**you play / start**)