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PASIÓN POR EDUCAR

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Past simple vs past continuous

Past simple

We use the past simple when we want to say that an acción occurred in the past

It is

The basic form of the past tense in English

For regular verbs add- ed

Irregular verbs have their own forms these need to be memorised

The structure of the past continuous when it is used together with the past simple:

Subject+aux verb+ing form of verb+conjunción+past simple

Past continuous

Structure:
Subject+aux verb(past simple)+ ing form of the verb+ remainder of sentence

The past continuous is commonly used to talk about something that was happening at a particular time in the past.

Past continuous sentence

Often include the past simple tense

The past simple describes the action while the past continuous describes the longer activity in the background

Often, the action in the past simple part of the sentence interrupts the action described in the past continuous tense

Example

I was just opening the door when the cat leapt on the mouse