***Past simple and the past continuous***

***Past simple***

 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart **was** an Austrian musician and composer. He **lived** from 1756 to1791. He **started** composing at the age of five and **wrote** more than 600 pieces of music. He **was** only 35 years old when he **died**.

\*Very often the past simple ends in -ed (regular verbs):

1-I work in a travel agency now. Before that I **worked** in a department store.

2-Laura **passed** her exam because she **studied** very hard.

\*But many verbs are *irregular.* The past simple does *not* end in **-ed.** For example:

**Write** - Mozart **wrote** more than 600 pieces of music.

**See** -We **saw** Tanya in town a few days ago.

**Shut -** It was cold, so I **shut** the window.

Yesterday Karen and Jim played tennis. They started at 10 o'clock and finished at 11.30.So; at 10.30 they **were playing** tennis.

**I /he/she/ it** was verb + ing

**We/you/they** were

\*I was doing something (I was in the middle of doing something at a certain time). The action or situation had already started before this time, but had not finished. \*\*\*

***Compare:***

*\*Past continuous* (in the middle of an action)

I was walking home when I met Dan.

(In the middle of walking home).

*\*Past simple* (complete action)

I walked home after the party last night.

(=all the *way,* completely)

\*We often use the P.S and the P.C together to say that something happened in the middle of something else. But we use the P.S to say that one thing happened after another

-When Karen arrived, we **were having** dinner.

- When Karen arrived, we **had** dinner.