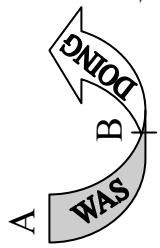
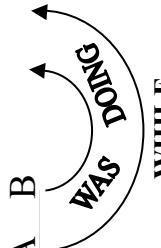


PAST TENSE

| | | SIMPLE PAST | PAST CONTINUOUS |
|------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| Form | I DID sth + DEFINITE TIME | I WAS DOING sth + WHEN sth DID | |
| Use | <p>To indicate that an action started and finished at some time in the past. We are interested in both action and time</p> <p>e.g. I saw my friends last week. Jane came home on foot yesterday.</p> | <p>To indicate that an action (B) took place while another one (A) was happening. *Never used alone. Only in:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Interrupted actions I was having breakfast when the phone rang. What were you doing when I called you?</p>  | |
| Time expressions | <p>...ago (i.e. a minute / a week ago) last... (last night / last month) WHEN YESTERDAY IN 1953 In July On Monday This morning at 3 p.m. etc</p> <p style="text-align: right;">When they belong to the Past.</p> | <p>Parallel actions It was raining all the time I was driving to work. What were you doing while I was watering the garden?</p>  <p>Verbs of small duration themselves i.e. 'start', 'finish' are not usually put in past continuous. *I was reading a new book for 8 hours (duration) yesterday (definite time).</p> | |