

GRAMÁTICA

Past Progressive Tenses

You use the **past progressive** to emphasize that an action was in progress at a particular time in the past. It is usually formed by using:

imperfect form of estar + present participle

—¿Qué **estabas haciendo**
a las nueve de la mañana?

What were you doing at nine A.M.?

—**Estaba desayunando y estudiando** para
el examen de mercadeo.

I was eating breakfast and studying for the marketing exam.

The action was
in progress at a specific
time in the past.

You can also use the **past progressive** to emphasize that an action continued in the past for a specific period of time until it came to an end. To form this use of the past progressive use:

preterite of estar + present participle

Estuvimos escribiendo toda la mañana.

We were writing all morning. (We spent the whole morning writing.)

It is clear
that the action
has ended.