

Past Tenses

Work in group/pairs.

Read the following sentences. Look at the timelines and answer the questions.

What conclusions can you draw about each one of the tenses?

Tina **went** shopping yesterday.



Now? Past? Future?

Is the action finished? _____

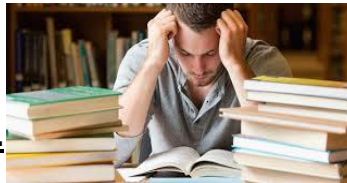
What's the verb? _____

What tense is it? _____

Is it regular or irregular? _____

Any Time Expressions? _____

Ben **was studying** all afternoon.



Now? Past? Future?

Was the action for a long time or a short time?

What's the verb? _____

What tense is it? _____

Any Time Expressions? _____

While Tina **was sleeping**, the telephone **rang**.



PAST | NOW

Now? Past? Future?

How many actions/verbs? _____ Which ones? _____

Which action happened first? _____ Was the action for a long or a short time?

What tense is it? _____ Any time expressions? _____

Which action interrupted it? _____ What tense is it? _____

Tina **was sleeping** when the phone **rang**.

Does this sentence have the same meaning with the above one?

What's different?

While Tom **was sleeping**, his wife **was making breakfast** .



PAST | NOW

How many actions? _____

Now? Past? Future?

Were the actions for a long or a short time?

Were the actions at the same time? _____ Did any of the two interrupt the other? _____

Mark **had read** the book **before** he **watched** the film.



PAST | NOW

Now? Past? Future?

How many actions? _____

Which action happened first? _____ What tense is it? _____

Which action happened second? _____ What tense is it? _____

Any time expressions? _____

Can you rewrite the sentence using after?

Catherine **had been waiting** for 30 minutes **before** the bus finally **arrived**.



PAST | NOW

Now? Past? Future?

How many actions? _____

Which action happened first? _____ Was the action for a long or a short time?

What tense is it? _____

Which action happened second? _____ What tense is it? _____

Any time expressions? _____

Can you rewrite the sentence using after?