

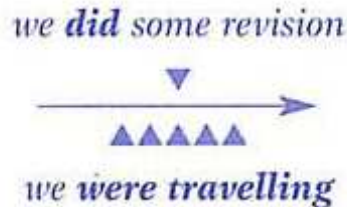
PAST TENSES

PAST SIMPLE; PAST CONTINUOUS; USED TO (AND TO BE USED TO); WOULD

PAST SIMPLE vs PAST CONTINUOUS

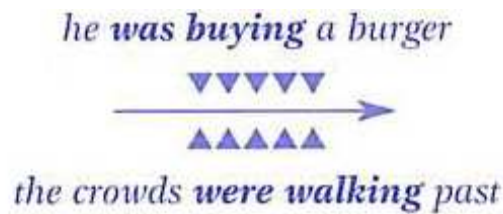
- We use the Past Continuous for an **activity beginning BEFORE** a past (Simple) action and continuing until or after it:

“We did some revision while we were travelling”



- We use the Past continuous for two things happening at the same time:

“He **WAS BUYING** a burger and all the crowds **WERE WALKING** past”.



- We use the past continuous for **REPEATED EVENTS**, with a word like ALWAYS, especially if we are **CRITICISING** the activity:

“Simon **FINISHED** with his girlfriend because she **WAS ALWAYS CANCELLING** their dates”.

We use **USED TO/WOULD** to talk about past habits that are no longer true:

“I **USED TO** play football when I was a teenager” (so I don't play it now!)
or...

“I **WOULD** play football when I was a teenager” (so I don't play it now!)

Don't
FREAK
OUT!

They mean exactly the same: **USED TO = WOULD (Past)**.

*USED TO is more common than WOULD.

Do not confuse:

	PAST	PRESENT	FUTURE
USED TO (INFINITIVE) (Tener costumbre de...)	“I used to play football when I was a teenager”	X	X
TO BE USED TO (-ING) Estar acostumbrado a...	I was USED to play ING football when...	I am used to (-ING)...	I will be used to...
TO GET USED TO (-ING) Acostumbrarse a...	I GOT USED to play ING football when...	I am getting USED to (-ING)...	I will get used to...