

Imperfect progressive and preterite (p. 277)

- Remember that the present progressive is used to tell what someone is doing. It is formed by the present tense of the verb **estar** + present participle (**-ando** or **-iendo**):

La doctora está hablando. *The doctor is talking.*

Laura y Juan están corriendo. *Laura and Juan are running.*

- As shown above, the present progressive is used to tell what *is* happening. The imperfect progressive is used to tell what *was* happening. It uses the imperfect tense of **estar** + present participle:

La doctora estaba hablando. *The doctor was talking.*

Laura y Juan estaban corriendo. *Laura and Juan were running.*

A. First, circle the present progressive in each sentence. Then, change each sentence from the present progressive to the *imperfect* progressive. Follow the model.

Modelo Eliana está caminando con muletas. estaba caminando

- Juana está hablando con el doctor. _____
- Nosotros estamos bebiendo bastante agua. _____
- Yo estoy examinando las puntadas. _____
- Tú estás sacando una radiografía. _____
- La enfermera está poniendo una inyección. _____
- El doctor me está dando puntadas. _____
- Los paramédicos le están moviendo a otro piso. _____

- You can use the imperfect progressive tense to describe something that was happening over a period of time. The imperfect progressive uses the imperfect tense of **estar** + the present participle:


Teresa estaba escribiendo un cuento. *Teresa was writing a story.*

B. The following sentences tell what people were doing yesterday in the hospital when the storm began. Complete each sentence by writing in the correct form of **estar** and the participle of the verb in parentheses. Follow the model.

Cuando la tormenta comenzó...

Modelo Mario estaba caminando con muletas. (**caminar**)

- mi hermano _____ una radiografía. (**sacar**)
- mis amigos y yo _____ la ambulancia. (**esperar**)

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Imperfect progressive and preterite (*continued*)

3. la Dra. Carrillo _____ una receta. (escribir)
4. usted _____ a Javier. (ayudar)
5. tú _____ una inyección. (poner)

- Remember that some present participles have changes in their spelling.
- -ir stem-changing verbs have a vowel change to "i" or "u":
 pedir → **pidiendo** vestir → **vistiendo** dormir → **durmiendo**
- leer, caer, creer, and traer have a "y":
 leer → **leyendo** caer → **cayendo** creer → **creyendo** traer → **trayendo**

C. A paramedic has to report to his boss about what different patients were doing when they got hurt. Complete his statements. Follow the model.

Modelo Los niños / seguir / a sus hermanos mayores

Los niños estaban siguiendo a sus hermanos mayores _____.

1. Los camareros / servir / sopa muy caliente

_____.

2. Felipe Sánchez / leer / una novela muy interesante

_____.

3. Adelita Romero / vestir / a su perro

_____.

4. Nosotros / subir / las escaleras

_____.

5. El señor Peña / dormir / en el sofá

_____.