

3 PAST TENSES

- **SIMPLE PAST**

Action finished at a specific time in the past:

I came to school at 8 am yesterday.

She arrived in Canada in 1998.

They used to write on lined paper.

- **PAST PROGRESSIVE**

(form with WAS/WERE + ING)

Action in progress at a specific time in the past:

We were taking a break when the alarm went off.

Ongoing action interrupted by a specific event:

David called me when I was sleeping.

Not used with non-action verbs:

X I was liking him when I met him first. X

X We loved that house when we were owning it. X

- **PAST PERFECT**

(form with HAD + the past participle)

Action that happened in the past before another past action or before a specific time:

They had eaten dinner before the movie began.

She had understood the lesson before the class.

They arrived late, and the class had begun.