PAST SIMPLE

Употребление

Действие произошло (началось и закончилось) в прошлом; нет связи с настоящим.

Сигналы

Yesterday

last week

last year

in 1984

in 2007

an hour ago

a year ago

a long time ago

Во всех лицах и числах
I playED (прав. глагол)
I WROTE (неправ. глагол - **2nd form**)

Во всех лицах и числах
DID you play? (1st form!)
did she write?

we did not (didn't) play

PAST CONTINUOUS

Употребление

1. Действие (past continuous) длилось в прошлом, когда другое действие (simple past) произошло.
2. Действие длилось в определённый момент времени в прошлом.

Сигналы

when

while

at five o'clock yesterday

at that moment

at that time

last year

I WAS playING
he/she/it WAS playING

Во всех остальных лицах и числах
we WERE playING

were you/was he playing?

he was not (wasn't) playing
you were not (weren't) playing

PAST PERFECT

Употребление

Действие (past perfect) произошло и завершилось раньше другого действия в прошлом (simple past) или раньше определённого момента в прошлом.

Сигналы

by the time

Before

After

when (in the meanings "by the time; after")

by two o'clock yesterday

by that time

already

Во всех лицах и числах

I HAD (I'd)

playED/WRITTEN

had you played?

he had not (hadn't) played

PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Употребление

1. Действие (past perfect continuous) продолжалось какое-то время прежде того, как произошло другое действие в прошлом (simple past).
2. Действие продолжалось в течение какого-то времени раньше определённого момента в прошлом.

Сигналы

by the time

Before

After

when (in the meaning "by the time")

for two hours

for a long time.

Во всех лицах и числах
she HAD (she'd) BEEN playING

had they been playing?

you had not (hadn't) been playing