

Translating present and past continuous (past progressive) verbs

We know now that the ending of a Latin verb not only tells us **WHO** is doing the verb, but also **WHEN** the verb happened.

| present tense (action is happening now) | | past continuous (past progressive) tense (action was happening over a period of time in the past) |
|--|-----------------------|---|
| -o | I | -bam |
| -s | you | -bas |
| -t | he/she/it | -bat |
| -mus | we | -bamus |
| -tis | y'all/you (plural) | -batis |
| -nt | they | -bant |

Exercise 1

Sort the words below into the correct tense groups. The first one has been done to show you how.

~~amabam~~ amant consumebas consumitis
 audimus audiebat habebamus curabamus habes
 curris videbatis video dabant
 vocant currebatis curamus dat vocabam

| present tense | past continuous (past progressive) tense |
|---------------|--|
| | amabam |

Exercise 2

Translate the following Latin verbs. Watch out, there's a mixture of present and past continuous, so take a look at the ending to see:

- when the verb is happening
- who's doing it

Then look at the beginning of the verb to see what's happening (use your word lists if you need help with the verb meaning). The first one has been done to show you how.

| | | | |
|------------|-----------------|-----------|--|
| amat | he/she/it loves | habebam | |
| consumebat | | habent | |
| consumis | | videbatis | |
| audiebant | | curabamus | |
| audimus | | curo | |
| videtis | | vocas | |
| dabatis | | curris | |
| das | | vocabas | |
| currebat | | amabant | |

Exercise 3

These sentences are all in the past continuous tense. Translate them. Tip: look at the verb first to see

- who's doing the action
- if there's a subject
- if there's an object

1. porcum curabam _____

2. regina magam audiebat _____

3. feminae equos amabant _____

4. aquam dabatis _____

5. medicum vocabas _____

Exercise 4 (extension)

These sentences contain either a past continuous verb, or a present verb. Translate the sentences. Tip: look at the verb first to see:

- when the verb is happening
- who's doing the action
- if there's a subject
- if there's an object

1. feminae vaccas curant _____

2. stellas videbamus _____

3. regina equum amat _____

4. per campos currebamus _____

5. medicus bonus magam malam vocabat _____

6. vacca sordida in villa bella currebat _____

Exercise 5 (extension)

Can you make one sentence (or more!) containing a past continuous verb? Don't forget to write the English translation underneath.