

Translating Latin past continuous/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 (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	-batis
-nt	they	-bant

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

~~ambulabam~~ ambulans scribebas scribitis
 audimus audiebat inveniebamus faciebamus
 invenis dormis videbatis video numerabant
 dormiunt dormiebatis facimus numerat
 audiebam scribo

present tense	past continuous/progressive tense
ambulans scribitis audimus invenis dormis video dormiunt facimus numerat scribo	ambulabam scribebas audiebat inveniebamus faciebamus videbatis numerabant dormiebatis audiebam

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 both when the verb is happening and who is 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.

1. ambulat *I walk*
2. scribebat *He/she/it was writing*
3. scribis *You write*
4. audiebant *They were hearing*
5. audimus *We hear*
6. videtis *Y'all see*
7. numeratis *Y'all count*
8. numeras *You count*
9. dormiebat *He/she/it was sleeping*
10. inveniebam *I was finding*
11. inveniunt *They find*
12. videbatis *Y'all were seeing*
13. faciebamus *We were making/doing*
14. facio *I make/do*
15. ambulas *You walk*
16. dormis *You sleep*
17. videbas *You were seeing*
18. ambulabant *They were walking*

words to help



These Latin sentences all have verbs in the past continuous tense. Can you translate them? The first one has been done to show you how.

1. porcos numerabam. *I was counting the pigs.*
2. regina magam audiebat. *The queen was hearing the witch.*
3. magi in horto ambulabant. *The wizards were walking in the garden.*
4. aquam inveniebatis. *Y'all were finding water.*
5. in villa scribebas. *You were writing in the house.*