34. SIMPLE PAST TENSE (*It caused…*) VS. PAST PROGRESSIVE TENSE (*It was causing…*)
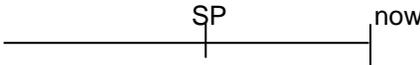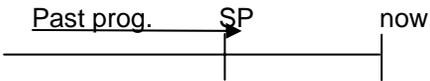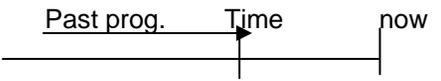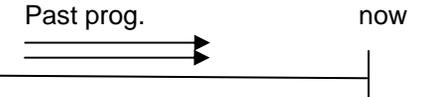
	FUNCTION	EXAMPLES	FORM
THE SIMPLE PAST TENSE	To describe an action or an event that was completed at a particular time in the past (e.g., in *2005, yesterday, last month, two days ago*).	SP now *I graduated high school in 2005.*	Simple form + *ed*
THE PAST PROGRESSIVE TENSE	To describe an action or event that was in progress at a certain time in the past.	Past prog. SP now *The senator was making a speech when protestors stood up and interrupted him.* Past prog. Time now *At 6 p.m. on Election Day, voters were still standing in lines outside polling stations.*	*was / were* + simple form + *ing*
	To describe two events that were happening at the same time in the past.	Past prog. now *While the professor was lecturing, the students were taking notes.* (Both actions – the professor lecturing and the students taking notes – were in progress at the same time.)	