

## Pretérito vs. imperfecto (p. 76)

- Remember that you have learned two past tenses: the preterite and the imperfect. Look at the information below for a summary of when to use each tense:

### Preterite

- actions that happened once or were completed in the past
- to relate a series of events that happened

### Imperfect

- habitual or repeated actions in the past
- descriptions such as background information, physical appearance, emotions, time, date, age, and weather

When you have two verbs in one sentence, use the following rules:

- If two actions were going on simultaneously and did not interrupt each other, put both verbs in the imperfect:

*Yo leía mientras mi hermana pintaba.*

- If one action that is in progress in the past is interrupted by another action, put the action in progress in the imperfect and the interrupting action in the preterite:

*Los estudiantes pintaban cuando su maestro salió de la clase.*

**A.** Read each of the following statements about Picasso's life and career. Then decide if the statement is about something Picasso *used to do* or if it is something he *did once*. Place a checkmark in the box of your choice.

**Modelo** Pablo Ruiz Picasso **nació** en Málaga el 25 de octubre de 1881.

used to do                       did once

1. **Hizo** un viaje a París en 1900.

used to do                       did once

2. **Pasaba** mucho tiempo con el artista André Breton y la escritora Gertrude Stein.

used to do                       did once

3. **Hacía** cuadros monocromáticos.

used to do                       did once

4. **Quería** expresar la violencia y la crueldad de la Guerra Civil Española.

used to do                       did once

5. **Pintó** el cuadro *Guernica* para ilustrar los horrores de la guerra.

used to do                       did once