

Past simple: *be* and past time expressions

1 Choose the correct option.

- 1 It was / were cold.
- 2 James weren't / wasn't there.
- 3 The book was / were expensive.
- 4 Was / Were your mum in Manchester?
- 5 I was / were in the desert.
- 6 Were / Was they at the game?
- 7 No, they wasn't / weren't.
- 8 Yes, he was / wasn't.

2 Complete the sentences with *was*, *were*, *wasn't* or *weren't*.

- A Where ¹ were you last week?
 B I ² was at my grandma's. She lives in the mountains.
 A What ³ was the weather like? ⁴ Was it cold?
 B No, it ⁵ wasn't. It ⁶ was warm and sunny.
 A ⁷ were there lots of people?
 B Yes, there ⁸ were. It ⁹ was really busy - Grandma ¹⁰ wasn't happy! She doesn't like busy places.

3 Rewrite the sentences. Use short forms where possible.

- 1 It was foggy this morning. (-)
It wasn't foggy this morning.
- 2 The desert was colourful. (?)
Was the desert colourful?
- 3 We weren't good at sport. (+)
We were good at sport.
- 4 You were at the beach yesterday. (?)
Were you at the beach yesterday?
- 5 She was born in Colombia. (-)
She wasn't born in Colombia.
- 6 There was a dolphin by the boat. (-)
There wasn't a dolphin by the boat.

there was / *there were*

4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of *there was* or *there were*.

- 1 There were 50 people at my birthday party.
- 2 We went shopping because there wasn't any food in the fridge.
- 3 There was a big storm yesterday.
- 4 I wanted to sit down but there wasn't a free chair.
- 5 There weren't many students in class today.
- 6 There were a lot of people at the concert.

Past simple affirmative: regular and irregular verbs

5 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets in the past simple.

- 1 They lived (live) in France when they were young.
- 2 We arrived (arrive) on the island during a storm.
- 3 I stopped (stop) to look at the beautiful rainbow.
- 4 Filip collected (collect) rocks from the beach yesterday.
- 5 You climbed (climb) to the top of the mountain quickly.
- 6 Maria discovered (discover) a cave.
- 7 I tried (try) to find the lighthouse at the weekend.
- 8 They travelled (travel) by boat to the remote island.

6 Complete the sentences with the past simple form of the verbs in the box.

catch eat find go have make see write

- 1 We had lunch with friends yesterday.
- 2 I saw Moana ~~at~~ the weekend - we had a great time!
- 3 They ate pasta for dinner at the restaurant.
- 4 Ethan went to Indonesia on holiday last year.
- 5 Johann David Wyss wrote *The Swiss Family Robinson* in 1812.
- 6 We made a raft on the river at the weekend.
- 7 Look! I found some colourful grass on the beach this morning.
- 8 Wow! You caught a big fish!

7 Complete the blog with the past simple form of the verbs in brackets.

My parents and I ¹ stayed (stay) at a house near the beach when I ² was (be) a child. We ³ went (go) there every summer and my brother and I ⁴ went (swim) in the sea and ⁵ played (play) football. My dad ⁶ had (have) a small boat and when the sea was calm, we ⁷ caught (catch) fish for lunch and ⁸ ate (eat) them on the beach. We ⁹ loved (love) those holidays, they ¹⁰ were (be) amazing!



1. stayed
2. was
3. went
5. played
6. had
7. caught
9. loved
10. were