

USE OF ENGLISH:

FUTURE IN THE PAST

The *future in the past* is used to refer to something that was the future at some time in the past. It does not matter if the future event happened or not as it was thought to be the future at the time.

WAS/WERE GOING TO	It is used to talk about a past future firm plan, intention or a prediction with evidence.	<i>I was going to head up into the mountains. We were going to contact the emergency line but the landline was not working.</i>
WOULD	It is used to talk about a past future promise or prediction with no evidence.	<i>I knew it would be tough.</i>
ABOUT TO	It is used to talk about something that was going to happen very soon.	<i>We were about to leave.</i>

Adapted from <https://www.theenglishbureau.com/blog/future-in-the-past/>

Choose the correct answer:

1. My mom planned to call my sister last night, but she forgot.
 - A. She were going to call last night, but she forgot.
 - B. She was going to call last night, but she forgot.
 - C. She going to call last night, but she forgot.
 - D. She was calling last night, but she forgot.
2. Mary _____ tell me a secret, but didn't.
 - A. was going to
 - B. were going to
 - C. going to
 - D. was go to
3. The game _____ be played at 1pm, but it rained, so they postponed the starting time.
 - A. was going to
 - B. were going to
 - C. was go to
 - D. wasn't going to
4. Originally, Tricia and Mark _____ come, but they changed their minds and came!
 - A. was going to
 - B. were going to
 - C. wasn't going to
 - D. weren't going to
5. I was standing in line and I _____ buy the Inception DVD, but I decided to put it down because I needed to save money.
 - A. was going to

- B. were going to
C. wasn't going to
D. weren't going to
6. We _____ play chess, but there was really nothing better to do, so we decided to play.
A. was going to
B. were going to
C. wasn't going to
D. weren't going to
7. Phillip and I _____ see the movie, but we were pulled over by the police for speeding and had to miss it.
A. was going to
B. were going to
C. wasn't going to
D. weren't going to
8. I thought Messi _____ score, but he just missed the net!
A. was going to
B. were going to
C. wasn't going to
D. weren't going to
9. _____ you _____ tell us?
A. Was you going to...
B. Were you going to...
C. Wasn't you going to...
D. Weren't you going to...
- *"Weren't you" OR "Were you" are both okay in this sentence.
10. I thought that you _____ be there. What happened? Why didn't you come?
A. was going to
B. were going to
C. wasn't going to
D. weren't going to

Taken from: <https://www.engvid.com/english-grammar-the-future-in-the-past/>