

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

A Who's that?  
B It's Jane Austen.  
A Why<sup>1</sup> was she famous?  
B She<sup>2</sup> was a writer.  
A<sup>3</sup> Was she Scottish?  
B No, she<sup>4</sup> wasn't.  
She<sup>5</sup> was English. She<sup>6</sup> was born  
in a small village in the South of England.  
A And<sup>7</sup> was she married?  
B No, she<sup>8</sup> wasn't.

**b** Write questions and answers.

1 Alexander Graham Bell / sportsman?  Was Alexander Graham Bell a sportsman ?

2 Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor / actors? ✓  
Were Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor actors? ?  
Yes, they were.

3 Charles Dickens / novelist? ✓

#### 4 The Beatles / from the USA? x

5 Lord Byron / politician? x

## 6 Isaac Newton / composer?

7 Bono / born / Ireland? ✓

8 Amy Winehouse / singer? ✓

## 9 J R R Tolkien and C S Lewis / painters? x

10 Michael Jackson / born / Britain? x

c Complete the dialogues with present or past forms of *be*.

- 1 A What day is it today?  
B Monday. Yesterday was Sunday.
- 2 A Hi. Is your sister at home?  
B No, she isn't. She went here this morning, but now she is at work.
- 3 A I can't find my keys. Where are they?  
B I don't know. They were on your desk this morning.
- 4 A Where is your new boyfriend from?  
B He wasn't born in England, but his parents were born in Singapore.
- 5 A Why was your boss angry yesterday?  
B Because I was very late for work.

## 2 VOCABULARY word formation

a Make professions from these words. Use *a* or *an*.

1 invent	<i>an inventor</i>
2 write	
3 police	
4 compose	
5 music	
6 paint	
7 business	
8 act	
9 science	
10 sail	