

Past Simple (Was – Were)



Listen and repeat. Then act out.



Affirmative	Negative	
	Long form	Short form
I was	I was not	I wasn't
You were	You were not	You weren't
He was	He was not	He wasn't
She was	She was not	She wasn't
It was	It was not	It wasn't
We were	We were not	We weren't
You were	You were not	You weren't
They were	They were not	They weren't

Time expressions with the past simple

yesterday	last year	two days ago	yesterday afternoon
last week	two weeks ago	then	last night
last month	two months ago	yesterday morning	two hours ago

We use the **past simple** for actions which happened at a definite time in the past.
I **was** at the circus **yesterday**. (When was I at the circus? Yesterday.)

1 Choose the correct item.

- I was / were at my friend's house yesterday.
- The girls **was** / were happy last week.
- Grandma **was** / were at the supermarket two hours ago.
- You **was** / were late for school yesterday.
- Sam **was** / were tired last night.
- Marek and Anna **was** / were bored last Saturday.
- The dog **was** / were in the garden yesterday.
- You and Ahmed **was** / were at school last Monday.
- It **was** / were sunny last week.
- We **was** / were at the cinema last night.

2 Write the sentences in the *past simple*.

TODAY

- 1 They are at the cinema.
- 2 I'm not happy.
- 3 The film is scary.
- 4 Is he in London?
- 5 What is for lunch?
- 6 George isn't very friendly.
- 7 Are they happy?
- 8 It's very hot!

YESTERDAY

... *They were at the cinema.* ...

Interrogative

Short answers

Was I ...?	Yes, I was. / No, I wasn't.
Were you ...?	Yes, you were. / No, you weren't.
Was he ...?	Yes, he was. / No, he wasn't.
Was she ...?	Yes, she was. / No, she wasn't.
Was it ...?	Yes, it was. / No, it wasn't.
Were we ...?	Yes, we were. / No, we weren't.
Were you ...?	Yes, you were. / No, you weren't.
Were they ...?	Yes, they were. / No, they weren't.

3 Tina was in London last Sunday. Write questions and answers.



1 (London/beautiful)

Was London beautiful?

Yes, *it was.*

2 (the people/kind)

Yes, ...

3 (the weather/good)

No, ...

4 (the hotel/nice)

No, ...

5 (your room/small)

Yes, ...

6 (the museums/interesting)

Yes, ...

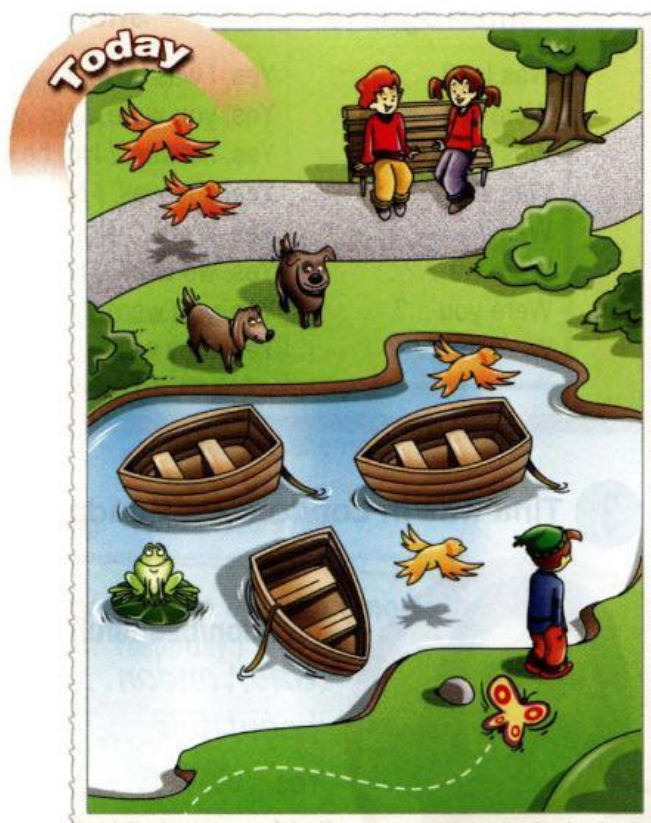
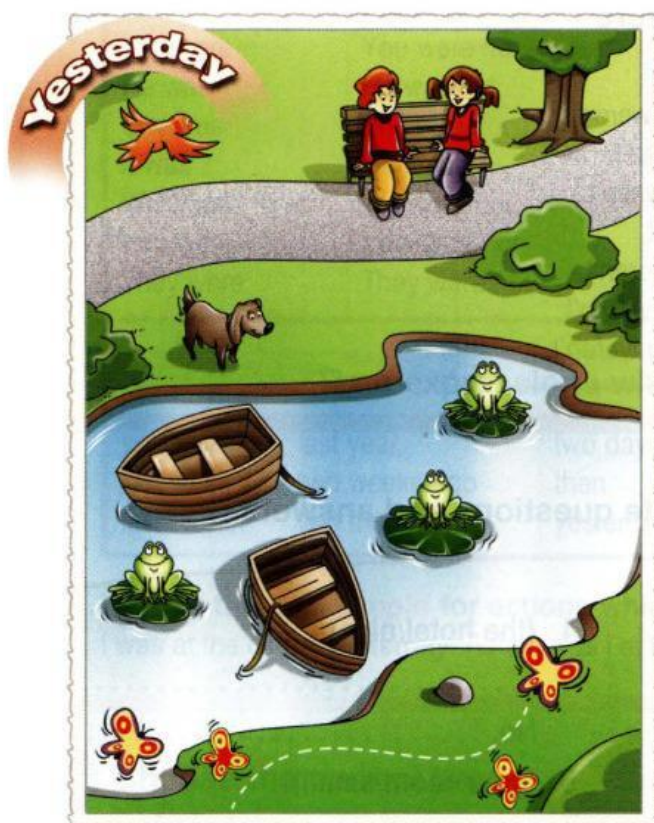


Listen and repeat.

There was / There were

Fifty years ago, *there was* a park opposite our house.
There were a lot of children there every day.

4 Spot the differences. Complete the sentences with *was*, *were* and a number.



- 1 Yesterday there ... *were two* ... children in the park.
- 2 Yesterday there bird in the sky.
- 3 Yesterday there butterflies.
- 4 Yesterday there dog.
- 5 Yesterday there boats on the lake.
- 6 Yesterday there frogs.

- Today there are three.
 Today there are four.
 Today there is one.
 Today there are two.
 Today there are three.
 Today there is one.

5 Write was or were.

- 1 It was.... hot last summer.
- 2 There two cakes in the fridge yesterday.
- 3 The boys at the library last Wednesday.
- 4 Mum at work yesterday.
- 5 There a cat at the window an hour ago.
- 6 My friends at school yesterday.
- 7 James at my party last night.
- 8 There a lot of people at the park yesterday.



Speaking Activity

What were you and your friend like when you were children? Answer the questions. Then interview your friend.

	Me	My friend
1 Were you noisy or quiet?		
2 Were you polite or rude?		
3 What was your favourite colour?		
4 What was your favourite food?		
5 Who was your favourite cartoon character?		
6 What was your favourite toy?		



Writing Activity

What were you like when you were a child? Write. Use your answers from the Speaking Activity.

When I was a child I

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....