

LANGUAGE IN ACTION

there was/there were

1 ★ Circle the correct options.

1 There was / There were a team of archaeologists in Naples.

2 There was / There were some kitchen furniture in the exhibition.

3 Was there / Were there any travellers in the storm?

4 There wasn't / There weren't any information about the objects.

5 Was there / Were there a school in Herculaneum?

6 There was / There were some old books in the box.

7 There wasn't / There weren't any clothes in the ruins.

2 ★★ Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

1 wasn't / rain / month / There / any / last
There wasn't any rain last month.

2 display / any / There / the / weren't / interesting / in / things

3 people / exhibition / there / the / at / many / Were / ?

4 old / baby / with / an / woman / There / a / was

5 there / box / Was / any / the / jewellery / in / ?

6 Naples / hundreds / were / in / tourists / There / of

3 ★ Match 1–6 with a–f.

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 There were some | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | a interesting display of jewellery. |
| 2 Was there a | <input type="checkbox"/> | b information about Herculaneum? |
| 3 There weren't any | <input type="checkbox"/> | c useful objects in the kitchen? |
| 4 There was an | <input type="checkbox"/> | d women in the team. |
| 5 Was there any | <input type="checkbox"/> | e Roman bowls in the museum. |
| 6 Were there any | <input type="checkbox"/> | f mirror in the woman's bag? |

4 ★★ Complete the email with *some, any, a* or *an*.

TO: Lily
FROM: Tom

Hi Lily!

How are you? Just a quick email to tell you about our trip to Brazil! Yesterday there was ¹ a big storm, so we had a day of culture. We walked around the city and there was ² fascinating museum called the Museum of Tomorrow, so we decided to go in. It's ³ science museum in Rio, but ⁴ architect from Spain designed it. There were ⁵ amazing exhibitions about our planet, and there was ⁶ very interesting information about it, too. There weren't ⁷ postcards in the museum shop, but there was ⁸ interesting little book, so I bought you that! Hope you like it!

Speak soon,
Tom

5 ★★ Look at the two museum displays and complete the texts with *there was(n't)/ there were(n't), a, an, some* or *any*.

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¹ There was an interesting display with objects from a Roman kitchen at our local museum. ² some wooden bowls and ³ knives and forks, but there weren't ⁴ spoons. There was ⁵ metal water bottle. There was also ⁶ very old bread – over a thousand years old, in fact. Yummy!



My favourite display had lovely objects from a woman's bedroom. There was ⁷ old mirror and ⁸ gold jewellery. She was probably ⁹ important person. ¹⁰ a beautiful necklace and a bracelet too, but ¹¹ any earrings. And there was a comb with ¹² human hair in it!

