

7A GRAMMAR past simple of *be*: *was* / *were*

a Complete with *was* / *wasn't* or *were* / *weren't* to make true sentences.



- 1 Edward VIII wasn't King for very long.
- 2 Julius Caesar _____ the first Roman emperor.
- 3 Tchaikovsky _____ the composer of *Swan Lake*.
- 4 The Vikings _____ from Germany.
- 5 Helena Bonham Carter _____ in the Harry Potter films.
- 6 Roald Dahl _____ a famous British musician.
- 7 The 2010 football World Cup _____ in South Africa.
- 8 Brad Pitt _____ married to Jennifer Aniston.
- 9 Socrates and Plato _____ Brazilian footballers.
- 10 Pablo Picasso _____ Spanish.
- 11 Beethoven _____ a Swiss composer.
- 12 Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin _____ the first men to walk on the Moon.
- 13 Hilary Clinton _____ President of the USA in the 1990s.
- 14 The Incas _____ from Mexico.
- 15 Marco Polo _____ born in Italy.
- 16 The Beatles _____ from Liverpool.
- 17 Vincent van Gogh and Leonardo da Vinci _____ famous German painters.
- 18 William Wallace (*Braveheart*) _____ from Ireland.
- 19 The last Olympic Games in Asia _____ in Beijing in 2008.
- 20 The Wall Street Crash _____ in 1939.



a Complete the dialogues in the past tense. Use the verbs in brackets.

1 **Annie** ¹Did you study French at university? (study)

Beth No, I ²French, I ³Italian. I ⁴in Rome for six months in my third year. (not study, study, live)

Annie Where ⁵you ⁶in Rome? (live)

Beth Near the Forum. I ⁶a house with some Italian students. (rent)

Annie ⁷you ⁸in Italian all the time? (talk)

Beth Not always, because they ⁸to practise their English. But I ⁹to cook great pasta! (want, learn)



2 **Alan** ¹⁰you ¹¹Brazil? (like)

Ben We ¹¹it! We ¹²to come home. (love, not want)

Alan ¹³you ¹⁴around the country? (travel)

Ben We ¹⁴much because we were only there for two weeks. (not travel)

Alan ¹⁵you ¹⁶in hotels? (stay)

Ben No, we ¹⁶. We stayed with Brazilian friends.



3 **Dave** ¹⁷you ¹⁸the match? Arsenal and Real Madrid? (watch)

Carl No, I ¹⁸.

Dave Why not?

Carl I ¹⁹late last night. I ²⁰until 7.00. (work, not finish)

Dave But the match ²¹at 7.45. (start)

Carl Yes, but I ²²my train. I ²³home until 9.30. (miss, not arrive)

Dave What a pity! It was a fantastic match.



a Complete the story with the past simple form of the verbs in brackets.



My memorable night at the Edinburgh Festival

by Lotte

This happened in my first summer when I was at Edinburgh University. I lived in a room in a big house with three friends. That summer some musicians rented two other rooms in our house. It ¹was (be) August and the Edinburgh Music and Arts Festival was on. The musicians ² (be) from Poland, Italy, and the Netherlands. One afternoon they ³_____ (tell) me about a Latin music club. My friends and I ⁴_____ (say) that we wanted to go with them. We ⁵_____ (meet) them at the club that evening at 9.00 p.m. It ⁶_____ (have) a really friendly atmosphere and the music ⁷_____ (be) fantastic! Our new friends ⁸_____ (speak) English very well and we ⁹_____ (spend) the evening dancing and chatting. When we ¹⁰_____ (leave) the club, we ¹¹_____ (find) that we ¹²_____ (not have) the money for a taxi home. It ¹³_____ (be) a warm night, so we walked home through the streets. The musicians ¹⁴_____ (see) the historic buildings and monuments for the first time, and they ¹⁵_____ (think) that they ¹⁶_____ (be) really beautiful. We ¹⁷_____ (get) home at 4.00 a.m., but we ¹⁸_____ (not go) to bed. We ¹⁹_____ (make) some coffee and chatted. Then our friends played their guitars and we ²⁰_____ (sing) songs that we all ²¹_____ (know). It ²²_____ (be) a wonderful, memorable evening and, ten years later, we are still friends.

b Complete these questions about the story.

- 1 Which month was the Edinburgh Festival in?
- 2 Where _____ from?
- 3 What _____ Lotte about?
- 4 What time _____ at the club?
- 5 _____ good?
- 6 What _____ at the club?
- 7 Why _____ a taxi home?
- 8 What _____ for the first time?
- 9 _____ when they got home?
- 10 What _____ after that?

It was in August.

They were from Poland, Italy, and the Netherlands.

They told her about a Latin music club.

They met at 9.00 p.m.

Yes, it was fantastic.

They danced and chatted all evening.

Because they didn't have enough money.

They saw Edinburgh's historic buildings and monuments.

No, they made coffee and chatted.

They played their guitars and sang.