PAST TENSE



Language at work | Past simple: *be* and regular verbs

1 **Do you ever have meetings at breakfast? Do you think this is a good time for meetings or presentations?**

2 28▷ **Listen to a conversation between Janusz and Carlos and underline the correct words in *italics*.**

ALPHA MARKETING CONSULTANTS

Alpha Marketing Consultants welcomes you to a [1]*presentation / meeting*:

'Sobieski on Brands: The Branding of Eastern Europe'

VENUE:
The Century [2]*Restaurant / Hotel*

SPEAKER:
Maike Sobieski

Buffet [3]*breakfast / lunch* starts at 7.30. Presentation at 8.15.

3 28▷ **Listen again and complete the conversation with *was, wasn't, were,* or *weren't*.**

Janusz Sorry I'm late. I [1]_____ at the presentation on branding.
Carlos [2]_____ that last week?
Janusz No, it [3]_____ this morning at the Century Hotel.
Carlos Oh. [4]_____ it interesting?
Janusz Yes, it [5]_____, and there [6]_____ lots of good questions at the end. The breakfast [7]_____ good too! Anyway, why [8]_____ you in the office yesterday?
Carlos There [9]_____ terrible problems with flights from Rome, so I …

4 **Complete these rules for the past simple of *be* with *was, were, wasn't,* or *weren't*.**

1 Use _____ or _____ in positive sentences.
2 Use _____ or _____ in negative sentences.
3 In questions, put the verb *before / after* the subject.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 Underline the correct word in *italics*.

A How [1]*was / were* the meeting?

B I don't know, I [2]*wasn't / weren't* there. I [3]*was / were* on holiday, but John emailed me the notes from the meeting. It [4]*was / were* very long!

A I'm glad I [5]*were / was* off sick then! Remi and Anna [6]*were / was* also away. They [7]*were / was* on a skiing holiday, but there [8]*wasn't / weren't* any snow!

10.1 Where were these people at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon?



1 Joe was in bed.
2 Jack and Kate
3 Sue
4
5
6 And you? I

2 Put the words in 1–5 in the right order to make questions, then match them to answers a–e.

1 they / weren't / why / the / at / meeting
_____?

2 interesting / was / it
_____?

3 questions / were / many / there
_____?

4 was / last / your / when / business trip
_____?

5 at / who / the / meeting / was
_____?

a Yes, it was. ___
b Last Friday. ___
c They were in Los Angeles. ___
d Max and Yolanda. ___
e No, there weren't. ___

LIVEWORKSHEETS