GRAMMAR 1 *Was/were; ago*

Talk about situations in the past

1 Complete the grammar table with the words in the box.

was (x2) wasn't (x2) were weren't

Was/were; ago
Use: To talk about situations in the past.
Form: **Positive and negative** *I/he/she/it + was/(1) wasn't* *we/you/they + were/weren't* **Questions and short answers** *(2) _____ he/she/it … ?* *Yes, she was. / No, she (3) _____.* *Were we/you/they … ?* *Yes, they (4) _____. / No, they (5) _____.*
Time expressions: time period + *ago* *I (6) _____ born a long time ago.*

2 Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

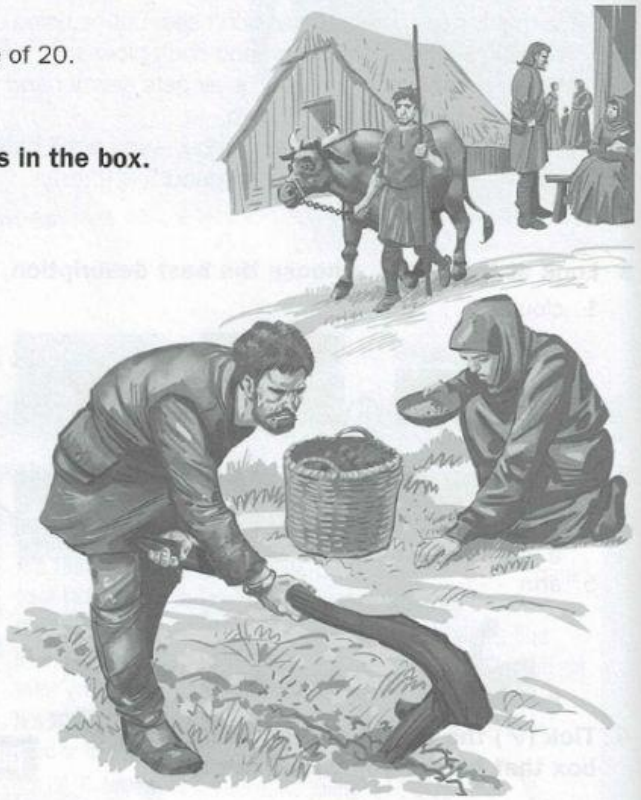
A thousand years ago …

1 a lot of people (were) / was farmers.
2 not many people **were** / **was** in towns.
3 there **were** / **was** education but only for the rich.
4 a person **was** / **were** usually married before the age of 20.
5 life **were** / **was** difficult.
6 there **was** / **were** no hospitals.

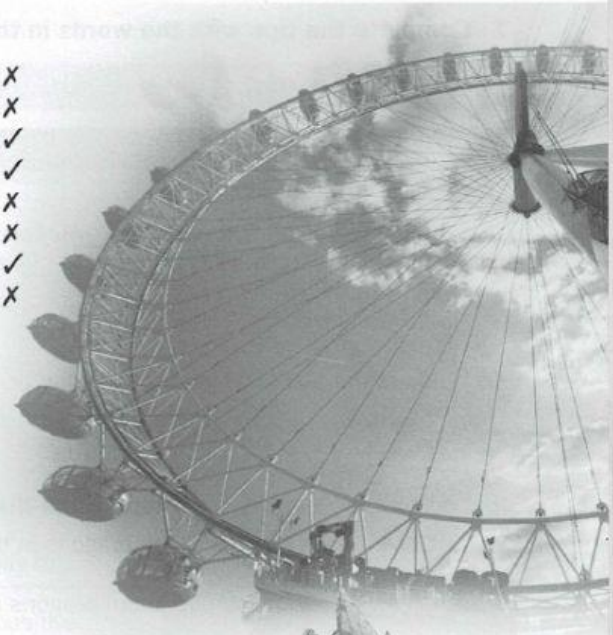
3 Complete the table with the words and phrases in the box.

a party home hospital my bedroom
New York ~~school~~ Spain the cinema

At	In
school	



LIVEWORKSHEETS



4 » Match the questions (1–8) to the answers (a–h).

1 Were you born in London? ✗
2 Was London the capital of England 2,000 years ago? ✗
3 Were there big celebrations in London for the new millennium? ✓
4 Was the London Eye popular in 2000? ✓
5 Were there new millennium towers built in London in 2000? ✗
6 Was Usain Bolt born in the East End of London? ✗
7 Were David Beckham and Daniel Radcliffe born in London? ✓
8 Was Mary Poppins a real woman? ✗

a No, it wasn't. 2
b Yes, it was. ___
c No, he wasn't. ___
d No, I wasn't. ___
e Yes, there were. ___
f No, she wasn't. ___
g No, there weren't. ___
h Yes, they were. ___

5 » Complete the conversations with *were*, *weren't*, *was* or *wasn't*.

Kara: Where (1) *were* you? Now we're late for the cinema.
Leo: Sorry, there (2) _____ any trains.

Al: Who (3) _____ that?
Don: That (4) _____ Jim. We (5) _____ at school together.

Uri: Why (6) _____ Arturo at school yesterday?
Lara: He (7) _____ very well. He (8) _____ at the doctor's.

Eva: Who (9) _____ your best friends at your first school?
Sam: They (10) _____ Jo and Jim.

6 »» Complete the text with past forms of the verb *be*.

When I (✓) (1) *was* your age, there (✗) (2) _____ the internet and there (✗) (3) _____ any mobile phones. There (✓) (4) _____ many music shops and there (✓) (5) _____ a video shop in my street. That (✓) (6) _____ a long time ago. You (✗) (7) _____ born then.

7 »» Put the words in order to make sentences.

1 you / Where / were / ago? / an hour
Where were you an hour ago?
2 Was / Joe / you? / with
_____
3 weren't / We / at home / four / hours ago.
_____
4 were / at / the cinema. / We
_____
5 the film / was / What / like?
_____
6 wasn't / very / good. / It
_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS