

# 10B Before they were famous...and after

## 1 GRAMMAR past simple: *be*

a Rewrite the sentences in the past.

1 I'm at work now.

I was at work yesterday.

2 They aren't at home today.

They weren't at home yesterday.

3 He's at a restaurant tonight.

He was at a restaurant last night.

4 We aren't at school today.

We weren't at school yesterday.

5 Are you at work now?

Were you at work last night?

6 She's at the airport this morning.

She was at the airport yesterday evening.

7 Is he late today?

Was he late yesterday?

8 I'm not in a hurry this morning.

I wasn't in a hurry yesterday morning.

b Write questions and answers.

1 Picasso / a painter (✓)

Was Picasso a painter ?

Yes, he was .

2 the Beatles / from the United States (✗)

Were the Beatles from the United States ?

No, they weren't .

3 Amy Winehouse / American (✗)

Was Amy Winehouse American ?

No, she wasn't .

4 Charles Dickens and Jane Austen / writers (✓)

Were Charles Dickens and Jane Austen writers ?

Yes, they were .

5 Carmen Miranda / Brazilian (✓)

Was Carmen Miranda Brazilian ?

Yes, she was .

6 Monet and Matisse / musicians (✗)

Were Monet and Matisse musicians ?

No, they weren't .

7 Russell Crowe / a teacher (✗)

Was Russell Crowe a teacher ?

No, he wasn't .

8 Steve Jobs and Thomas Edison / American (✓)

Were Steve Jobs and Thomas Edison American ?

Yes, they were .

c Complete the conversations with *was* / *wasn't* or *were* / *weren't*.

1 A Were you at work last week?

B Yes, I was .

2 A Where were you last night?

B I were at a party.

3 A Were your friend at school yesterday?

B No, she wasn't .

4 A Were your parents on holiday last week?

B No, they were .

5 A When were your brother in Moscow?

B He were there last year.

6 A Were you at the museum yesterday?

B No, we wasn't .

## 2 VOCABULARY *in, at, on*

Where were these people yesterday? Write sentences with *in*, *at*, or *on* and a word from the list.

bed home park street train work



1 She was on the train .



2 They were in the park .



3 He was at work .



4 They were in bed .



5 He was on the street .



6 She was at home .

### 3 READING

a Read the article. Which person is different? Why?

## Famous ex-teachers



Everybody knows that before she was a famous author, J.K. Rowling was an English teacher at a language institute in Portugal.

But here are four more ex-teachers. Maybe you know them...

The American author, Stephen King, is famous for his horror stories and the films made from his books. *Carrie*, *The Shining*, and *The Shawshank Redemption* were all novels by Stephen King. But, after university, his first job was as an English teacher at Hampden Academy, a public high school in Maine, USA.

British guitarist, Brian May, was in one of the greatest rock bands ever: Queen. But before the band was famous, he was a maths teacher in South London. He says he was happy with his job but the students were sometimes difficult.

American actor, Sylvester Stallone, famous for the *Rocky* and *Rambo* films, was at drama school in Switzerland in the 1960s. He needed some money, so he worked as a PE teacher when he was a drama student.

Finally, Australian actor, Hugh Jackman, wasn't a teacher, but before he went to drama school, he was a teaching assistant at Uppingham School in England. He was there for a year. Today he is famous as Wolverine in the *X-Men* films and as Jean Valjean in *Les Misérables*.



b Read the article again and answer the questions.

Which famous person was...?

- 1 a teacher in a foreign country
- 2 a student and a teacher at the same time
- 3 in England for a year
- 4 good at music and at numbers
- 5 a teacher in his / her country before he / she was a writer.

c Look at the highlighted words. What do you think they mean? Check with your dictionary.

### 4 PRONUNCIATION was and were; sentence rhythm

**iChecker** Listen and repeat. Copy the rhythm.

- 1 **Where** were you last **night**?
- 2 **Were** you at **home**?
- 3 I was **alone**.
- 4 I **wasn't** with my **friends**.
- 5 **Were** your **children** at **school**?
- 6 My **wife** was at **work**.

### 5 LISTENING

**iChecker** Listen to the conversations. Complete the sentences with the places from the list. There are two places that you don't need.

at the beach    at work    in a car    in a restaurant  
in the kitchen    in the park    on a train

- 1 The man was in the kitchen
- 2 The man was  .
- 3 The woman was  .
- 4 The man was  .
- 5 The woman was  .

### WORDS AND PHRASES TO LEARN

Learn these words and phrases.

young boy	/jʌŋ bɔɪ/
dark eyes	/dɑ:k aɪz/
smile (n)	/smайл/
success	/sək'ses/
proud	/praʊd/
dream (v and n)	/dri:m/
yesterday	/'jestədeɪ/
yesterday afternoon	/'jestədeɪ a:ftə'nun:/
last night	/la:st naɪt/
last Friday	/la:st 'fraideɪ/