C'è – Ci sono / C'era – C'erano

In Italian, "**c'è**" and "**ci sono**" both translate to "there is" or "there are".

A. "C'è" is **the singular form** of the present tense of the verb "essere" (to be). It is used to indicate the existence or presence of a singular object or person.

For example

1. **C'è** il sole oggi. (There is sun today.)
2. **C'è** una farfalla nel giardino. (There is a butterfly in the garden.)
3. **C'è** un bicchiere sull tavolo. (There is a glass on the table.)
4. **C'è** una penna rossa nella mia borsa. (There is a red pen in my bag.)
5. **C'è** un cane nel parco. (There is a dog in the park)

B. "**Ci sono**" is **the plural form** of the present tense of the verb "essere" (to be) and is used to indicate the existence of multiple objects or people.

For example

1. **Ci sono** molti alberi nel parco. (There are many trees in the park)
2. **Ci sono** molte persone al supermercato. (There are many people at the supermarket.)
3. **Ci sono** tre libri sulla scrivania. (There are three books on the desk.)
4. **Ci sono** molte nuvole nel cielo oggi. (There are many clouds in the sky today.)
5. **Ci sono** due gatti nella stanza. (There are two cats in the room.)

In summary, "c'è" is used for singular objects or people, while "ci sono" is used for multiple objects or people.

"**C'era**" and "**c'erano**" both translate to "there was" or "there were".

A. "**C'era**" is **the singular form** of the past tense of the verb "essere" (to be). It means "there was" when talking about one thing, like saying "there was a cat".

For example

1. **C'era** un bella macchina davanti alla casa. (There was a beautiful car in front of the house.)
2. Ieri **c'era** un temporale. (There was a thunderstorm yesterday.)

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3. **C'era** un gatto nero sulla sedia. (There was a cat on the chair.)
4. **C'era** una volta una principessa in un castello. (Once upon a time, there was a princess in a castle.)
5. **C'era** un cane che latrava forte nella notte. (There was a dog barking loudly at night.)

B. "**C'erano**" is **the plural form** of the past tense of the verb "essere" (to be). It means "there were" when talking about more than one thing, like saying "there were many cats".

1. **C'erano** molti fiori sull'erba. (There were many flowers on the grass.)
2. **C'erano** tanti uccelli sugli alberi. (There were many birds on the trees.)
3. **C'erano** molte persone al mercato. (There were many people at the market.)
4. **C'erano** due gatti sulla sedia. (There were two cats on the chair.)
5. **C'erano** molte nuvole nel cielo. (There were many clouds in the sky.)

In summary, "c'era" is used for singular objects or people, while "c'erano" is used for multiple objects or people.

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