

Verb be: past simple affirmative and negative

1 Complete the text with the correct affirmative (✓) or negative (✗) form of was / were.

Lewis Clarke ¹ wasn't (✗) the first person to reach the South Pole. He ² _____ (✓) one of the first teenagers to reach the South Pole. He ³ _____ (✓) sixteen years old at the time. He ⁴ _____ (✗) alone on the expedition. He ⁵ _____ (✓) with a guide. He and his guide ⁶ _____ (✓) in Antarctica for fifty days. His parents ⁷ _____ (✓) worried about him because it ⁸ _____ (✓) a very dangerous journey.

Verb be: past simple questions and answers

2 Write the questions and complete the answers with the correct form of was / were.

1 the weather / good on holiday?

Was the weather good on holiday?

Yes, it was.

2 what / your party like?

_____?

It was fun!

3 your friends / in town?

_____?

No, they weren't.

4 when / you born?

_____?

I was born in 2002.

5 your sister / at school?

_____?

No, she wasn't.

6 where / Franco and Zoe this afternoon?

_____?

there was / there were

3 Complete the affirmative (✓) or negative (✗) answers. Then write the questions. Use the correct form of there was / there were.

1 Was there a message on your phone?

No, there wasn't a message on my phone. (✗)

2 _____?

There was a whiteboard in our classroom. (✓)

3 _____?

There were many people in town today. (✗)

4 _____?

There was a computer room at my first school. (✗)

5 _____?

There were many students on the school trip. (✗)

Put it together

4 Answer the questions for you.

1 Where were you born?

2 Was there a good film on TV last night?

3 What was school like yesterday?

4 Were there any tourists in town last summer?

5 How many students were in your English class last year?