

6 Back in time

GRAMMAR

past simple: be

1 Complete the sentences with *is*, *are*, *was* or *were*.

- 1 In 1837 there musical instruments, but no TVs.
- 2 There usually about thirty children in modern British classes.
- 3 there any whiteboards at school in the 1830s?
- 4 There a lot of work to do. Let's start!
- 5 Why she away from school yesterday?

2 Rewrite the sentences in the past simple.

There isn't a supermarket in the village.

There a supermarket in the village.

- 1 There aren't any TVs at the school.

- 2 The lesson isn't very interesting.

- 3 Old computers aren't very quick.

- 4 The weather isn't nice.

- 5 My parents aren't happy with me.

3 Complete the blog with the correct form of *was* or *were*.

On Friday I at an exhibition at the Science Museum with my class. There lots of gadgets for listening to music, from the last 100 years or so. There any CDs in the 1900s. There machines called gramophones. They work like record players, but they have big speakers, like trumpets. The sound very good, not like modern CDs, but I think some of the gramophones really beautiful.



4 Alice and Beth are looking at an old photo of their city. Complete the conversation with *was*, *wasn't*, *were* or *weren't*.



A: Wow! The city very different in the 1940s.

B: Yes. What those things? They look like buses.

A: They called trams, I think.

B: There any cars in the city centre.

A: You're right. There

B: And all the people are wearing hats in this photo. Look!

A: Yes, hats very popular.

5 Write short answers about you and your family.

1 Were your parents born in the 1990s?

2 Was your grandad in a pop group when he was young?

3 Was there just one teacher at your school yesterday?

4 Were you a beautiful baby?

5 Were there any good programmes on TV last night?

6 Was your last English homework difficult?