

LANGUAGE IN ACTION

there was/there were

1 Circle the correct options.

- 1 There was / There were a team of archaeologists in Naples.
- 2 There was / There were some kitchen furniture in the exhibition.
- 3 Was there / Were there any travellers in the storm?
- 4 There wasn't / There weren't any information about the objects.
- 5 Was there / Were there a school in Herculaneum?
- 6 There was / There were some old books in the box.
- 7 There wasn't / There weren't any clothes in the ruins.

2 Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

- 1 wasn't / rain / month / There / any / last
There wasn't any rain last month.
- 2 display / any / There / the / weren't / interesting / in / things
- 3 people / exhibition / there / the / at / many / Were / ?
- 4 old / baby / with / an / woman / There / a / was
- 5 there / box / Was / any / the / jewellery / in / ?
- 6 Naples / hundreds / were / in / tourists / There / of

3 Match 1–6 with a–f.

1 There were some	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	a interesting display of jewellery.
2 Was there a	<input type="checkbox"/>	b information about Herculaneum?
3 There weren't any	<input type="checkbox"/>	c useful objects in the kitchen?
4 There was an	<input type="checkbox"/>	d women in the team.
5 Was there any	<input type="checkbox"/>	e Roman bowls in the museum.
6 Were there any	<input type="checkbox"/>	f mirror in the woman's bag?

4 Complete the email with *some, any, a or an*.

TO: Lily

FROM: Tom

Hi Lily!

How are you? Just a quick email to tell you about our trip to Brazil! Yesterday there was ¹ a ² big storm, so we had a day of culture. We walked around the city and there was ³ a ⁴ fascinating museum called the Museum of Tomorrow, so we decided to go in. It's ⁵ a ⁶ science museum in Rio, but ⁷ an ⁸ architect from Spain designed it. There were ⁹ amazing exhibitions about our planet, and there was ¹⁰ ¹¹ very interesting information about it, too. There weren't ¹² ¹³ postcards in the museum shop, but there was ¹⁴ ¹⁵ interesting little book, so I bought you that! Hope you like it!

Speak soon,
Tom

5 Look at the two museum displays and complete the texts with *there was(n't)/ there were(n't), a, an, some or any*.

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¹ There was ² an interesting display with objects from a Roman kitchen at our local museum. ³ some wooden bowls and ⁴ knives and forks, but there weren't ⁵ spoons. There was ⁶ water bottle. There was also ⁷ very old bread – over a thousand years old, in fact. Yummy!



My favourite display had lovely objects from a woman's bedroom. There was ⁸ old mirror and ⁹ gold jewellery. She was probably ¹⁰ important person. ¹¹ a beautiful necklace and a bracelet too, but ¹² any earrings. And there was a comb with ¹³ human hair in

