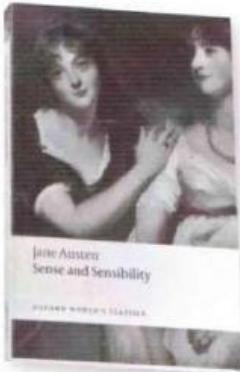
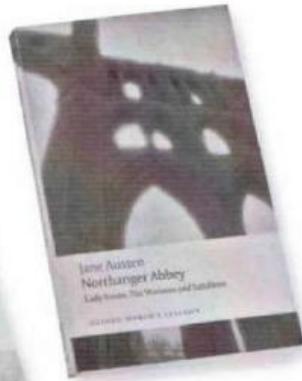


7A At the National Portrait Gallery

1 GRAMMAR past simple of be: was / were



a Complete the sentences with *was*, *were*, *wasn't*, or *weren't*.

A Who's that?

B It's Jane Austen.

A Why¹ was she famous?

B She² was a writer.

A³ Was she Scottish?

B No, she⁴ wasn't.

She⁵ was English. She⁶ was born in a small village in the South of England.

A And⁷ was she married?

B No, she⁸ wasn't.

b Write questions and answers.

1 Alexander Graham Bell / sportsman? *x*

Was Alexander Graham Bell a sportsman ?
No, he wasn't .

2 Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor / actors? *✓*

Were Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor actors ?
Yes, they were .

3 Charles Dickens / novelist? *✓*

Was Charles Dickens a novelist ?
No, he wasn't .

4 The Beatles / from the USA? *x*

Were The Beatles from the USA ?
No, they weren't .

5 Lord Byron / politician? *x*

Was Lord Byron a politician ?
No, he wasn't .

6 Isaac Newton / composer? *x*

Was Isaac Newton a composer ?
No, he wasn't .

7 Bono / born / Ireland? *✓*

Was Bono born in Ireland ?
Yes, he was .

8 Amy Winehouse / singer? *✓*

Was Amy Winehouse a singer ?
Yes, she was .

9 J R R Tolkien and C S Lewis / painters? *x*

Were J R R Tolkien and C S Lewis painters ?
No, they weren't .

10 Michael Jackson / born / Britain? *x*

Was Michael Jackson born in Britain ?
No, he wasn't .

c Complete the dialogues with present or past forms of *be*.

1 A What day is it today?

B Monday. Yesterday was Sunday.

2 A Hi. Is your sister at home?

B No, she isn't. She was here this morning, but now she isn't at work.

3 A I can't find my keys. Where are they?

B I don't know. They were on your desk this morning.

4 A Where is your new boyfriend from?

B He is born in England, but his parents were born in Singapore.

5 A Why were your boss angry yesterday?

B Because I were very late for work.

2 VOCABULARY word formation

a Make professions from these words. Use *a* or *an*.

- 1 invent an inventor
- 2 write
- 3 police
- 4 compose
- 5 music
- 6 paint
- 7 business
- 8 act
- 9 science
- 10 sail

b Underline the stressed syllables, e.g. *an inventor*.

c Practise saying the words in a.

d Complete the sentences with *was / were* and a noun from a.

- 1 Francis Drake was a sailor.
- 2 Beethoven and Mozart were composers.
- 3 James Dean .
- 4 Galileo .
- 5 Freddie Mercury .
- 6 The Wright brothers .
- 7 Agatha Christie .
- 8 Howard Hughes .
- 9 Degas and Toulouse-Lautrec .

3 PRONUNCIATION sentence stress

iChecker Listen and repeat the conversation.

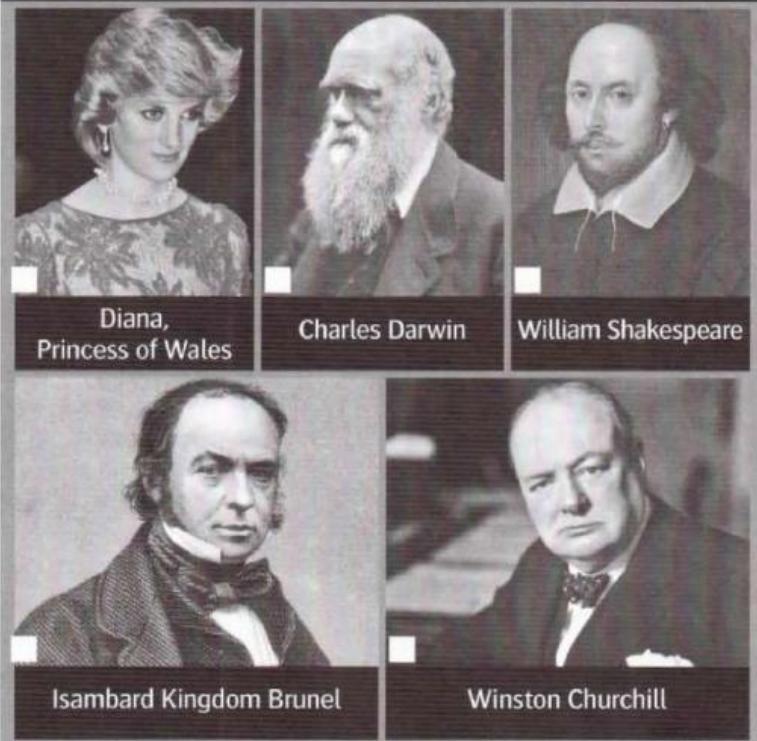
A Who was Benjamin Britten?
B He was a composer.
A Was he American?
B No, he wasn't. He was English.
A When was he born?
B He was born in 1913.
A Were his parents English?
B Yes, they were.



4 LISTENING

a **iChecker** Listen to a radio programme about the greatest Britons of all time. Number the people in the order they come on the list.

The Greatest Britons of All Time



b **iChecker** Listen again. Write T (true) or F (false).

- 1 We don't know when Shakespeare was born. T
- 2 Charles Darwin was born on 20th February, 1809.
- 3 He was 63 when he died.
- 4 Diana was born on 1st July, 1961.
- 5 She wasn't married when she died.
- 6 Isambard Kingdom Brunel was a writer.
- 7 He was 53 when he died.
- 8 The greatest Briton of all time was a painter.

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Learn these words and phrases.

the (16th) century /ðə 'sentʃəri/
divorced /dɪ'veɪst/
between (1816 and 1820) /bɪ'twiːn/
be against (something) /bi ə'geɪnst/
be in love (with someone) /bi ɪn 'ləv/