

09

I was very scared.

Grammar Station



Past Simple (The Verb Be): Positive & Negative

- ★ We use the **past simple** to talk about something that happened in the past.
- ★ The verb **be** has two past forms: **was** and **were**.
- ★ We often use the past simple with these words: *yesterday, last week, last year, etc.*

Positive

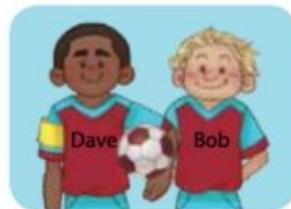
I	was	a teacher last year.
He/She/It	was	in London last week.
We/You/They	were	sick yesterday.

Negative

I	was not (=wasn't)	a teacher last year.
He/She/It	was not (=wasn't)	in London last week.
We/You/They	were not (=weren't)	sick yesterday.



There **was** a big storm last night.
I **was** very scared.



Bob **wasn't** the captain of our team.
Dave **was** the captain.

Check the correct sentences.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wasn't at home last night. | <input type="checkbox"/> I'm not at home last night. |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> It was hot last week. | <input type="checkbox"/> It is hot last week. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> We are tired yesterday. | <input type="checkbox"/> We were tired yesterday. |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> He wasn't tall last year. | <input type="checkbox"/> He weren't tall last year. |

A Circle the correct words.

1. I (was / were) at the beach.
2. She (was / were) on the swing.
3. The lady (was / were) quiet.
4. It (was / were) foggy yesterday.
5. You (was / were) weak last year.
6. The show (was / were) fun.
7. My clothes (was / were) wet.
8. The plants (was / were) small.

B Complete the sentences with **wasn't** or **weren't**.

1. The tower wasn't big.
2. The cowboys _____ scared.
3. He _____ a basketball player.
4. Hannah _____ thin last year.
5. My shoes _____ on the shelf.
6. We _____ angry this morning.
7. There _____ a bakery here.
8. It _____ dark in the room.

C Complete the sentences.

before



now



1.

Ken's parents were in Paris last week.

They _____ very busy there.

They _____ in Rome now.

2.



My sister _____ sick yesterday.

She _____ in bed all day.

She _____ all right now.

3.



Tim and I _____ under the tree at noon.

We _____ not bored.

We _____ in the tent now.

Practice

A Complete the sentences in the past simple.



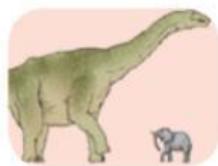
sunny / cloudy



big / small



boring / fun



huge / small

1. It was sunny this morning. It wasn't cloudy.

2. My glasses big before. They small.

3. The magic show boring. It fun.

4. This dinosaur huge. It small.

B Complete the sentences.

Past

1. Joe was at the birthday party.

2. many people.

3. hungry.

4. Lynn's cats were under the table.

5. Simon was sick yesterday.

Present

Joe is at the birthday party.

There aren't many people.

Joe isn't hungry.

under the table.

Simon today.

C Correct the underlined words and rewrite the sentences.

1. Eric not was tired yesterday. → Eric was not tired yesterday.
2. They wasn't busy last week. → They weren't busy last week.
3. We was not in Canada last month. → We weren't in Canada last month.
4. I were in my room after lunch. → I was in my room after lunch.
5. You was at the beach yesterday. → You were at the beach yesterday.

Grammar in Writing



When you write a report about the past, you can use the past simple form of the verb *be*.

★ Complete the report in the past simple.



DINOSAURS BECAME EXTINCT

We can see many dinosaurs in movies. Some dinosaurs
were really huge and some _____ small. T. rex
_____ a meat-eating giant. It _____ very fierce.
Brachiosaurus and Diplodocus _____ big and tall,
but they _____ meat-eating dinosaurs. They were
plant eaters. There are no dinosaurs
today. We can just see their bones
in natural history museums.

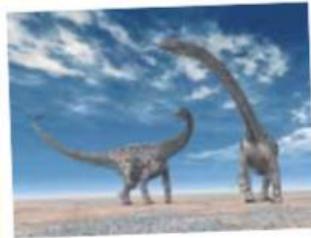
We only know they _____
here on Earth a long time ago.

They went extinct millions of years ago!

What _____ the reason? Nobody knows for sure!



T. rex



Brachiosaurus



Diplodocus

Review!

• Complete the chart.

Positive		Negative	
I He	was tired last night.	She Her dad	was not happy yesterday. (= wasn't)
My aunt The actor	busy yesterday.	Ken The boy	at home at 7:00. (= ——)
We They	sleepy then.	You They	in Sydney last year. (= ——)