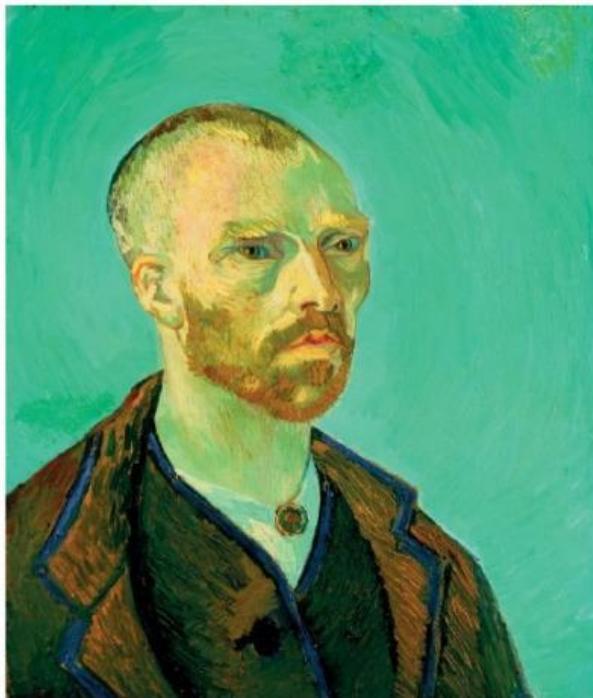


## GRAMMAR Past Simple of BE

a Look at a self-portrait by a famous painter. Answer the questions.

1. Do you know who he is?
2. How old do you think he is in this painting?
3. Do you know any of his paintings?  
Do you like them?



b Listen to an audio guide. Check your answers to questions 1 and 2 in a.

c Listen again, choose a, b or c

- 1 He was born in \_\_\_\_\_ in 1853.
- 2 His parents weren't \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Before he was a painter, he was a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 There are \_\_\_\_\_ photos of him when he was young.
5. This self-portrait was a present for the painter \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The relationship between the two painters wasn't \_\_\_\_\_.
7. He was only \_\_\_\_\_ when he died.
8. During his life, his paintings were \_\_\_\_\_.

d Look at the highlighted verbs and complete the chart.

[ was ] [ I, she, he, it ] [ weren't ] [ wasn't ] [ you, we, they ] [ were ]

Present	is / am	isn't	are	aren't
Past				
Persons				

## 7A past simple of be: was / were

Vincent van Gogh **was** an artist.

7.2

**Was** he Dutch or French?

She **wasn't** in class yesterday.

The Beatles **were** famous in the 1960s.

Where **were** you last night? You **weren't** at home.

- We use *was* / *were* to talk about the past.
- We often use *was* / *were* with past time expressions, e.g. *yesterday*, *last night*, *in 2014*, etc.
- We use *was* / *were* with *born*.  
*I was born in Scotland.*

+			-
I / He / She / It	<b>was</b> there.	I / He / She / It	<b>wasn't</b> there.
You / We / They	<b>were</b> there.	You / We / They	<b>weren't</b> there.
?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Was	I / he / she / it	famous?	Yes, I <b>was</b> . Yes, you <b>were</b> .
Were	you / we / they		No, I <b>wasn't</b> . No, you <b>weren't</b> .

**a** Rewrite the sentences in the past simple.

**present simple**

My father's at work.  
1 She's at home today.  
2 Where are you now?  
3 I'm in Edinburgh.  
4 Is it hot today?  
5 It isn't open now.  
6 They aren't in the office.  
7 We're in Rome now.  
8 They're tired.  
9 We aren't late.  
10 I'm not at school.

**Yesterday**

My father was at work.

\_\_\_\_\_ at home.

Where \_\_\_\_\_?

\_\_\_\_\_ in Edinburgh.

\_\_\_\_\_ hot?

\_\_\_\_\_ open.

\_\_\_\_\_ in the office.

\_\_\_\_\_ in Rome.

\_\_\_\_\_ tired.

\_\_\_\_\_ late.

\_\_\_\_\_ at school.

**b** Complete the conversation with *was*, *wasn't*, *were*, or *weren't*.

A Were you and Charlie at the concert last night?

B Yes, we <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

A <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ it good?

B No, it <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. The singer <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ terrible.

A <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ the tickets expensive?

B Yes, they <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

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C Where <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ your mother born?

D She <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ born in Argentina in 1955.

C <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ her parents Argentinian?

D No, they <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. Her father <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ German and her mother <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ from Italy.