

Grammar **was and were**

1 Make positive (+) or negative (-) sentences, or questions (?) using the past form of *be*.

- 1 (+) the co-founders of Microsoft / Bill Gates and Paul Allen
- 2 (?) the restaurant / expensive
- 3 (-) Harry's meal / very good
- 4 (+) I / very tired last night
- 5 (?) where / you / yesterday
- 6 (-) we / late for work this morning
- 7 (?) why / Vincent van Gogh / famous
- 8 (-) I / born in England

*The co-founders of Microsoft were Bill Gates and Paul Allen.*

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2 Choose the correct options to complete the article.

## IKEA is born

Ingvar Kamprad <sup>1</sup>was / were the founder of the furniture company IKEA. He <sup>2</sup>was / were born in 1926 in Sweden. His parents <sup>3</sup>wasn't / weren't rich – they <sup>4</sup>was / were farmers and the family home <sup>5</sup>was / were near a small village in the south of Sweden. Ingvar <sup>6</sup>wasn't / weren't interested in farming. He started IKEA in his uncle's kitchen in 1943. His first products <sup>7</sup>was / were pencils and other small items. There <sup>8</sup>wasn't / weren't any IKEA stores before 1958 – it <sup>9</sup>was / were only possible to buy things from IKEA by mail. The first IKEA store <sup>10</sup>was / were in Sweden, but now there are stores around the world.



3 Read the article in exercise 2 again. Complete the questions below with *was* or *were*, then write short answers.

- 1 Was Ingvar Kamprad born in Sweden?  
Yes, he was.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ his parents rich?
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ they farmers?
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Ingvar interested in farming?
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ IKEA furniture on sale in 1950?