

# Simple past - verb to be

## 1. Complete the sentences with was, were, wasn't, or weren't.

**A** Who's that?

**B** It's William Shakespeare.

**A** Why \_\_\_\_\_ he famous?

**B** He \_\_\_\_\_ a writer.

**A** \_\_\_\_\_ he Scottish?

**B** No, he \_\_\_\_\_. He \_\_\_\_\_ English. He \_\_\_\_\_ born in Stratford-upon-Avon.

**A** And \_\_\_\_\_ he married?

**B** Yes, he \_\_\_\_\_. His wife's name \_\_\_\_\_ Anne.

**A** And \_\_\_\_\_ they happy?

**B** I don't know.

## 2. Write questions and answers.

**a.** Mozart / from / Germany?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**b.** Columbus and Magellan / explorers? ✓

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**c.** Virginia Wolf / writer? ✓

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**d.** the Bee Gees / from the USA?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**e.** Ayrton Senna / footballer?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**f.** Matisse / composer?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**g.** Picasso / born / Spain? ✓

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**h.** Greta Garbo / actress? ✓

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**i.** Tolstoy and Cervantes / painters?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**j.** Nelson Mandela / born / Britain?

**3. Complete the sentences with the present or past forms of *be*.**

**a.** Today \_\_\_\_\_ Monday, so yesterday \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday.

**b.** A: Hi. \_\_\_\_\_ your sister at home?

B: No, she \_\_\_\_\_. She \_\_\_\_\_ here this morning but now she \_\_\_\_\_ at work.

**c.** My books \_\_\_\_\_ here this morning. Where \_\_\_\_\_ they now?

**d.** James \_\_\_\_\_ born in England, but his parents \_\_\_\_\_ born in Singapore.

**e.** My boss \_\_\_\_\_ angry today because I \_\_\_\_\_ very late for work yesterday, and this morning too.