

Unit 5 - Beginner

A- Past simple

1 GRAMMAR past simple be

a Rewrite the sentences in the past.

1 I'm in a hurry this morning.

I was in a hurry yesterday morning.

2 They aren't at school today.

They weren't at school yesterday.

3 She's at the cinema tonight.

_____ last night.

4 We aren't at home today.

_____ yesterday.

5 Is he at work this afternoon?

_____ yesterday afternoon?

6 They're at the airport this morning.

_____ yesterday morning.

7 Are you in London today?

_____ yesterday.

8 I'm not late today.

_____ yesterday.

b Write questions and answers.

1 Picasso / a painter (✓)

Was Picasso a painter ? Yes, he was.

2 the Beatles / from the United States (✗)

Were the Beatles from the United States ? No, they weren't.

3 Agatha Christie / a writer (✓)

_____ ? _____

4 Monet and Matisse / British (✗)

_____ ? _____

5 Rudolf Nureyev / from Poland (✗)

_____ ? _____

6 the Marx brothers / American (✓)

_____ ? _____

7 Edith Piaf / an actress (✗)

_____ ? _____

8 Proust and Tolstoy / writers (✓)

_____ ? _____

c Complete the dialogues with *was / wasn't* or *were / weren't*.

1 A Where were you last night?

B I was at the cinema.

2 A _____ your brother at home yesterday?

B No, he _____.

3 A _____ your children at school last week?

B No, they _____.

4 A When _____ your birthday?

B It _____ yesterday.

5 A _____ you at the restaurant at 10.30?

B No, we _____.

6 A Who _____ you with yesterday afternoon?

B I _____ with a friend.

Words and phrases to learn

Circle the correct word.

1 A When was your boyfriend at the gym?

B He was there **last** / **yesterday** morning.

2 A When were you at the cinema?

B We were there **yesterday** / **last** night.

3 A Where was Suzana **last** / **yesterday** afternoon?

B She was in a meeting.

4 A Where were you **the last** / **last** Saturday?

B We were at a restaurant.

5 A Were your parents in London **last day** / **yesterday**?

B No, they weren't. They were at home.

3 READING

a Read the text. Mark the sentences T (True) or F (False).

- 1 Vincent van Gogh was famous during his life. F
- 2 Vincent was from Germany. —
- 3 Theo van Gogh was Vincent's father. —
- 4 Before he was a painter, Vincent was a teacher. —
- 5 Vincent was interested in religion. —
- 6 He was a good student. —
- 7 Paul Gauguin was Vincent's friend. —
- 8 He was a happy person. —
- 9 Vincent's paintings were popular in his life. —
- 10 Today his pictures are very expensive. —

b Look at the highlighted words. What do you think they mean? Check with your dictionary.

A famous painter

Today the artist Vincent van Gogh is very famous, but he was never famous during his life.

Vincent was Dutch. His family was from a small village in the Netherlands. His brother, Theo, was a very important person in his life. Vincent was usually poor, but his brother always helped him with money.

Vincent was always good at painting, but he had many different jobs. He worked for an art company, and in a bookshop, and he was a teacher. He was interested in religion, and he wanted to study theology, but he wasn't a very good student. When he was 27 he started to work as a painter. He lived in Belgium, the Netherlands, and France, where he was with his friend, the painter Paul Gauguin. But Vincent was never really happy, and he was often not well. When he was only 37, he ended his life.

When Vincent was alive, he wasn't famous and his paintings weren't popular. Today his pictures are very expensive, and you can see them in art galleries all over the world.



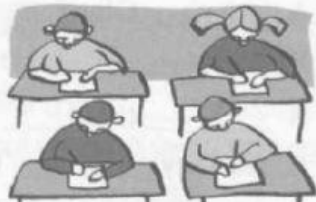
4 VOCABULARY in, at, on: places

Where were these people yesterday? Write sentences with *in*, *at*, or *on* and a word from the list.

bus street work plane school bedroom



5 _____ 6 _____



1 He was at work. 2 _____



3 _____ 4 _____

Click here to see the answers!

