

G simple past of be: was / were  
V word formation: paint > painter  
P sentence stress

Who was she? She was a famous actress.

# 7A At the National Portrait Gallery

## 1 GRAMMAR was / were

a Read about the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. and answer the questions.

- 1 Where is it?
- 2 What can you see there?
- 3 When is it open?
- 4 How much does it cost?

b 343 Look at a photo that is in the National Portrait Gallery. Cover the dialogue and listen. Who are the two people in the photo?

- A I love that photo. Who are they?  
B I think it's President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy. Let's see. Yes, that's right.  
A When was he president?  
B He was president from 1981 to 1989. He was an actor, too.  
A Really? What movies was he in?  
B He was in *Dark Victory* with Bette Davis, a very famous actress in the 1930s and 1940s. He was also in movies with stars like Errol Flynn, Clark Gable, and Ginger Rogers.  
A Was Nancy an actress, too?  
B Yes, she was. They were in a movie together in 1957.  
A Were Ronald and Nancy happy?  
B I think they were very happy. They were together all their lives.

c Listen again and read the dialogue. Then fill in the blanks.

Simple present	Simple past
He is the president.	He _____ the president.
She is an actress.	She _____ an actress.
They are happy.	They _____ happy.

d ➤ p.136 Grammar Bank 7A. Learn more about was / were and practice it.

## The National Portrait Gallery

The National Portrait Gallery has a collection of portraits of famous American men and women from the 17th century to the present day. The portraits are both paintings and photographs. The National Portrait Gallery is in Washington, D.C., a short walk from the National Mall. It is open daily and admission is free.



## 2 PRONUNCIATION & SPEAKING sentence stress

a 345 Listen and repeat. Copy the rhythm.

- ☒ I was at a party. She was born in Mexico.  
My parents were angry.  
☐ He wasn't at home. They weren't very happy.  
☐ When were you born? Where was the hotel?  
Was it expensive? No, it wasn't.  
Were they at the concert? Yes, they were.

b 346 Say the sentences in the simple past.

))) I'm at home. ( I was at home.

c ➤ Communication Where were you? A p.103 B p.108.

### 3 READING

- a Look at three more pictures from the National Portrait Gallery. Do you know who the people are or anything about them?

1



2



3



- b 3 47 Read and listen to three audio guide extracts. Check your answers to a.

1 Marilyn Monroe was born in Los Angeles, California in 1926. When she was a child, her life was very hard. Her mother was sick, and her father wasn't there very much. Marilyn was a factory worker and a model before she was an actress. Marilyn's three husbands were very important to her during her life. Her first husband was a sailor, the second was a famous baseball player, Joe DiMaggio, and the last was a famous writer, Arthur Miller.

2 Mary Wilson, Diana Ross, and Florence Ballard were born in the 1940s in Detroit, Michigan. Together they were The Supremes, a pop and soul singing group during the 1960s. All three women were very talented singers. In 1965, the Supremes were the first all-female singing group to have a number one album in the US. Their music was popular with everyone—men and women, teens and adults—and it is still popular today.

3 Thomas Edison, an inventor and businessman, was born in Ohio in 1847. At 13, he was an excellent salesperson selling candy and newspapers to train passengers. Later, he was the inventor of the incandescent light bulb, a movie camera, and the phonograph. Edison was also the owner of many companies, and some of them are in business today, e.g., General Electric. He was the loving husband of two wives—Mary Stillwell (1855–1884) and Mina Miller (1865–1947)—and the father of six children.

- c Read the texts again and answer the questions.

- 1 Why was Marilyn's life hard when she was a child?
- 2 Who were Joe DiMaggio and Arthur Miller?
- 3 Were there any men in The Supremes?
- 4 Why is The Supreme's music still popular today?
- 5 What was Thomas Edison good at when he was a boy?
- 6 Who was Thomas's second wife?

- d Cover the texts. What can you remember?

### 4 VOCABULARY word formation

- a Find words in the texts for people made from these words:

- |                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1 act _____ (OR actor) | 5 sing _____     |
| 2 sail _____           | 6 business _____ |
| 3 play _____           | 7 design _____   |
| 4 write _____          | 8 invent _____   |



#### Word building: professions

We often add -er or -or to a verb, e.g., writer, actor.

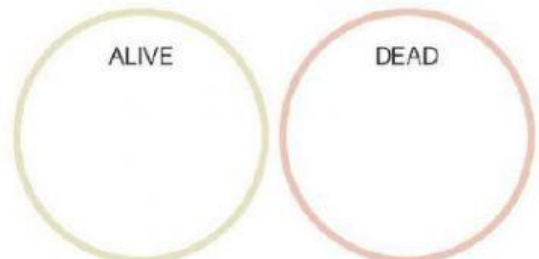
We often add -ian, -ist, or -man / woman to a noun, e.g., musician.

- b Are the words below verbs or nouns? Do you know the words for the people?

- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1 dance _____        | 6 novel _____  |
| 2 compose _____      | 7 sports _____ |
| 3 politics _____     | 8 paint _____  |
| 4 science _____      | 9 art _____    |
| 5 direct movie _____ | 10 music _____ |

- c 3 48 Listen and check. Underline the stressed syllable. Practice saying the words.

- d Write the names of four famous people in each circle. Ask a partner.



Who's Shakira? She's a singer.

Who was Charles Darwin? He was a scientist.

### 5 LISTENING & WRITING

- a 3 49 Listen to five clues about two famous people. Do you know who they are?
- b With a partner, write clues about a famous man and a woman (both dead).
- c Read your clues to another pair. Do they know the people?

Online Practice

53