

Past Simple: be and can

1. Complete the sentences. Use *was*, *were*, *wasn't* and *weren't*.

1. Kate and Liam _____ at school yesterday because they were ill.
2. We _____ at a football match yesterday. It was really exciting.
3. You _____ at home last night. Where were you?
4. On my last birthday, I _____ sixteen.
5. The weather _____ really bad last week – cold, windy and rainy.
6. My uncle _____ a doctor. He was a vet.
7. Today is Sunday. Yesterday _____ Saturday.
8. Louis was at school, but he _____ in the classroom.

2. Complete the sentences about the people. Use *was*, *were*, *wasn't* and *weren't*.

1. John _____ in bed at ten o'clock. ✗
2. Harry _____ last night. ✓
3. Sue and Simon _____ at school yesterday. ✗
4. Martin _____ in town at three o'clock yesterday afternoon. ✓
5. Rachel _____ at the supermarket at midday on Saturday. ✓
6. Tom and Emma _____ in the school canteen at breaktime. ✗
7. Danny _____ at the doctor's yesterday morning. ✗
8. Miranda _____ at a pop concert on Saturday evening. ✓

3. Complete the sentences. Use *could* or *couldn't*.

1. Mario _____ read and write when he was two! He was a very clever boy!
2. It was very noisy in the classroom, so I _____ hear the teacher.
3. Joe _____ phone you because his phone was broken.
4. Kate _____ eat her dinner because she wasn't hungry.
5. My great-grandmother _____ speak German. She was from Berlin.
6. I was very tired, but I _____ sleep.
7. I _____ find my pencil case. I looked everywhere!
8. I heard the lorry coming down the road, but I _____ see it.

4. Write questions from the prompts. Use the past simple form of *be* and *can* and give short answers.

1. swim / four

Could you swim when you were four? – Yes, I could. / No, I couldn't.

2. count to ten in English / seven
3. write your name / three
4. talk / two
5. walk / one
6. ride a bike / six