

# There and It sentences

Using *There* and *It* at the beginning of sentences

In this unit you learn about using **There was**, **There has been**, **There will be** and **It** at the beginning of sentences.

You use **There is** and **There are** when you are talking about the present. You can also use **There** + **be** with other tenses.

## There was/were

*There weren't any apples so I bought oranges instead.*

## There has/have been

*There has been a lot of sport on TV this summer.*

## There will be

*There will be lots of people at the party.*

You use **It** before **be**

- to talk about the weather:

*It was very sunny yesterday.*

- to talk about time:

*It will be very late when we get home.*

You can also use **it** with **take**:

A: How long **did it take** to get here?

B: About three hours.

- to express your opinions:

*It was a really good film.*

*It's going to be a very expensive holiday.*

- to describe a scene in the past:

*It was a cold day in December.*

*It was a great day for swimming.*

**Exercise 1**

Choose the correct word.

- 1 There **was** / **wasn't** / **hadn't** anyone in the room when I arrived.
- 2 It **will** / **has** / **is** take three hours to reach Prague.
- 3 **Have** / **Was** / **Did** there been any phone calls for me?
- 4 How many people **was** / **were** / **been** there at the party?
- 5 **Was** / **Has** / **Did** it rain when you were in Spain?

**Exercise 2**

Put each sentence into the correct order.

- 1 building / is / in / there / a doctor / this / ?

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- 2 holiday / it / a / been / wonderful / has / .

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- 3 the house / easy / won't / to find / it / be / .

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- 4 problems / weren't / the car / there / with / any / .

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- 5 cold / night / outdoors / was / last / it / ?

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- 6 a / is / to be / storm / going / there / .

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**Exercise 3**

Choose the correct word or words.

Hi Cristina

How are you? <sup>1</sup>**There's** / **It's** strange to be so far away from you and my other friends, but some of the people at my new school are very nice. <sup>2</sup>**There was** / **It was** a bit difficult at first, but now I feel OK.

The school is good. <sup>3</sup>**There's been** / **It's been** a school here since 1820. Isn't that amazing? Anyway, <sup>4</sup>**there have been** / **it has been** a lot of changes since then!

The sports centre is very good. <sup>5</sup>**There was** / **It was** an international match here last year and I hope they'll have one again this year so I can play in it. <sup>6</sup>**There isn't** / **It isn't** easy to get into the team, but I think I can.

Write and tell me the news from home soon.

Love

Pia

### Exercise 4

Decide if the pairs of sentences have the same meaning.

- 1 A It was a very crowded club. ☐  
B The club was very crowded. ☐
- 2 A There wasn't anywhere for us to sit. ☐  
B It wasn't easy to find our seats. ☐
- 3 A It was very late when we got home. ☐  
B We arrived home very late. ☐
- 4 A There's going to be a big party at the end of term. ☐  
B We're planning a big end-of-term party. ☐
- 5 A It was snowing when I left home this morning. ☐  
B The snow started when I was walking to work this morning. ☐

### Exercise 5

Which sentences are correct?

- 1 There were a lot of people at the concert last weekend. ☐
- 2 It was problem for me to understand all the rules. ☐
- 3 It was surprisingly easy to get into the palace. ☐
- 4 Has it been an accident on the motorway? ☐
- 5 There will be expensive to fly, so let's drive. ☐
- 6 There was a lovely, sunny day and the beach was crowded. ☐

### Exercise 6

Write the correct form of the words in brackets to complete each sentence.

- 1 You're very wet! \_\_\_\_\_ (it rain)?
- 2 I'm still hungry. \_\_\_\_\_ (there be) any more sandwiches in that box?
- 3 I'm not sure if these shoes are the right colour. \_\_\_\_\_ (it be) possible to change them if I bring them back next week?
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ (there be) no one at the house, so we couldn't go in and look round.
- 5 Why didn't you call me? \_\_\_\_\_ (there not be) a phone in the bus station?
- 6 I've just checked the weather forecast and \_\_\_\_\_ (it be) fine all weekend. Let's go camping.