

## In the past

8A

LANGUAGE

**GRAMMAR: Past of *be*, *there was*, *there were*, and simple past: irregular verbs**

- 1 Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.
- \_\_\_\_\_ you good at sports when you were young?  
a Were b Was c Wasn't
  - We had a test yesterday. It \_\_\_\_\_ really difficult.  
a was b weren't c were
  - Last year, I visited Rome. It's very beautiful, but it \_\_\_\_\_ cheap!  
a was b were c wasn't
  - Why \_\_\_\_\_ you at the party last night?  
a was b wasn't c weren't
  - His parents \_\_\_\_\_ rich, but they had a big house.  
a was b were c weren't
  - It was a warm day, and there \_\_\_\_\_ lots of people in town.  
a was b were c wasn't

- 2 Complete the sentences with the simple past form of the verbs in parentheses.

Last week, I <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (be) in New York. I <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (go) with my family: my mom, aunt, and two brothers. We <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (have) a really good time. Of course, we <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (see) all the sights – the Statue of Liberty, Central Park, and Times Square – and I <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (take) lots of photos. There are some great stores there, so I <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (buy) lots of new clothes – jeans, sneakers, and tops. We all loved the food, too – we <sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (eat) some fantastic meals. We <sup>8</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (come) home on Friday – but I want to go back again very soon!

**VOCABULARY: Inventions**

- 3 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

digital camera toaster smartphone  
microwave laptop dishwasher CD player

- I couldn't live without my \_\_\_\_\_ in my pocket. I call my friends and play games on it, too!
- We were late, but Mom left our dinner in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Our \_\_\_\_\_ is broken – the bread comes out black!
- Suki's hobby is taking photos – she has a really expensive \_\_\_\_\_.
- I don't enjoy washing the dishes after meals. I wish we had a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Do your parents still listen to music on a \_\_\_\_\_?
- I couldn't do my homework last night. My \_\_\_\_\_ broke, and I lost all my work!

- 4 Complete the conversation with the correct words.

**Anna** What kinds of things were there in your house when you were young, Grandma?

**Grandma** There wasn't a lot of technology in those days. For example, there was a radio, but we only had a black and white <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ to watch in the evenings, and we didn't have a DVD <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_.


**Anna** Really? And there was no <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ TV?

**Grandma** Oh no, only black and white! And we didn't have a fridge or <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ to keep our food cold, and there was no <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ to dry your clothes when you washed them!

**Anna** But were you happy?

**Grandma** Yes, I was! Life was interesting. We didn't have a <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ in our cars, so when you went somewhere new, you sometimes got lost. That was an adventure!

**PRONUNCIATION: *was* and *were***

- 5  8.1 **Underline** the words you think will be stressed. Then say the sentences. Listen, check, and repeat.

- My grandmother's life was very interesting.
- We weren't bored in school yesterday.
- Her parents were both teachers.
- There weren't many people in the market.
- There was a bar of chocolate in the fridge.
- I wasn't tired when I went to bed.
- I told the waiter that my French fries were cold.
- It wasn't very sunny last week.