

# LANGUAGE IN ACTION

there was/there were

## 1 ★ Circle the correct options.

- 1 There was / There were a team of archaeologists in Naples.
- 2 There was / There were some kitchen furniture in the exhibition.
- 3 Was there / Were there any travellers in the storm?
- 4 There wasn't / There weren't any information about the objects.
- 5 Was there / Were there a school in Herculaneum?
- 6 There was / There were some old books in the box.
- 7 There wasn't / There weren't any clothes in the ruins.

## 2 ★★ Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

- 1 wasn't / rain / month / There / any / last  
There wasn't any rain last month.
- 2 display / any / There / the / weren't / interesting / in / things  
There weren't any interesting things in the display.
- 3 people / exhibition / there / the / at / many / Were / ?  
Were there many people at the exhibition?
- 4 old / baby / with / an / woman / There / a / was  
There was a woman with an old baby.
- 5 there / box / Was / any / the / jewellery / in / ?  
Was there any jewellery in the box?
- 6 Naples / hundreds / were / in / tourists / There / of  
There were hundreds of tourists in Naples.

## 3 ★ Match 1-6 with a-f.

- |                     |                                       |                                     |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 There were some   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> e | a interesting display of jewellery. |
| 2 Was there a       | <input type="checkbox"/> b            | b information about Herculaneum?    |
| 3 There weren't any | <input type="checkbox"/> c            | c useful objects in the kitchen?    |
| 4 There was an      | <input type="checkbox"/> d            | d women in the team.                |
| 5 Was there any     | <input type="checkbox"/> e            | e Roman bowls in the museum.        |
| 6 Were there any    | <input type="checkbox"/> f            | f mirror in the woman's bag?        |

## 4 ★★ Complete the email with some, any, a or an.

● ● ●

TO: Lily

FROM: Tom

Hi Lily!

How are you? Just a quick email to tell you about our trip to Brazil! Yesterday there was <sup>1</sup> a big storm, so we had a day of culture. We walked around the city and there was <sup>2</sup> a fascinating museum called the Museum of Tomorrow, so we decided to go in. It's <sup>3</sup> a science museum in Rio, but <sup>4</sup> a architect from Spain designed it. There were <sup>5</sup> some amazing exhibitions about our planet, and there was <sup>6</sup> some very interesting information about it, too. There weren't <sup>7</sup> any postcards in the museum shop, but there was <sup>8</sup> a interesting little book, so I bought you that! Hope you like it!

Speak soon,  
Tom

## 5 ★★ Look at the two museum displays and complete the texts with there was(n't)/ there were(n't), a, an, some or any.

[Home](#)
[News](#)
[Blog](#)
[Lifestyle](#)

<sup>1</sup> There was an interesting display with objects from a Roman kitchen at our local museum. <sup>2</sup> some wooden bowls and <sup>3</sup> some knives and forks, but there weren't <sup>4</sup> any spoons. There was <sup>5</sup> a metal water bottle. There was also <sup>6</sup> a very old bread – over a thousand years old, in fact. Yummy!

My favourite display had lovely objects from a woman's bedroom. There was <sup>7</sup> a old mirror and <sup>8</sup> some gold jewellery. She was probably <sup>9</sup> a important person. <sup>10</sup> There was a beautiful necklace and a bracelet too, but <sup>11</sup> there weren't any earrings. And there was a comb with <sup>12</sup> some human hair in it!


