



Language at work | Past simple: *be* and regular verbs

- 1 Do you ever have meetings at breakfast? Do you think this is a good time for meetings or presentations?
- 2 28▷ Listen to a conversation between Janusz and Carlos and underline the correct words in *italics*.

ALPHA MARKETING CONSULTANTS

Alpha Marketing Consultants welcomes you to a 'presentation / meeting.

'Sobieski on Brands: The Branding of Eastern Europe'

VENUE:

The Century ²Restaurant / Hotel

SPEAKER:

Maike Sobieski

Buffet ³breakfast / lunch starts at 7.30. Presentation at 8.15.

- 3 28▷ Listen again and complete the conversation with *was*, *wasn't*, *were*, or *weren't*.

Janusz Sorry I'm late. I ¹_____ at the presentation on branding.

Carlos ²_____ that last week?

Janusz No, it ³_____ this morning at the Century Hotel.

Carlos Oh. ⁴_____ it interesting?

Janusz Yes, it ⁵_____, and there ⁶_____ lots of good questions at the end. The breakfast ⁷_____ good too! Anyway, why ⁸_____ you in the office yesterday?

Carlos There ⁹_____ terrible problems with flights from Rome, so I ...

- 4 Complete these rules for the past simple of *be* with *was*, *were*, *wasn't*, or *weren't*.

- 1 Use _____ or _____ in positive sentences.
- 2 Use _____ or _____ in negative sentences.
- 3 In questions, put the verb *before* / *after* the subject.

1 Underline the correct word in *italics*.

- A How ¹*was / were* the meeting?
- B I don't know, I ²*wasn't / weren't* there. I ³*was / were* on holiday, but John emailed me the notes from the meeting. It ⁴*was / were* very long!
- A I'm glad I ⁵*were / was* off sick then! Remi and Anna ⁶*were / was* also away. They ⁷*were / was* on a skiing holiday, but there ⁸*wasn't / weren't* any snow!

10.1 Where were these people at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon?



- 1 Joe was in bed.
- 2 Jack and Kate
- 3 Sue
- 4
- 5
- 6 And you? I

2 Put the words in 1–5 in the right order to make questions, then match them to answers a–e.

- 1 they / weren't / why / the / at / meeting _____?
- 2 interesting / was / it _____?
- 3 questions / were / many / there _____?
- 4 was / last / your / when / business trip _____?
- 5 at / who / the / meeting / was _____?
- a Yes, it was. ____
- b Last Friday. ____
- c They were in Los Angeles. ____
- d Max and Yolanda. ____
- e No, there weren't. ____