



## MINI LESSON 17: PAST SIMPLE OF "TO BE"

### Objective:

Learn how to use the **past forms of the verb "to be" (was/were)** in affirmative, negative, and question forms.

### Grammar Point

The verb **"to be"** in the **past simple** has two forms:

Subject	Verb
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I, He, She, It	was
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You, We, They	were
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### ◆ Affirmative Sentences

Subject	Past Form of "To Be"	Example
I	was	I was at home yesterday.
You	were	You were in NYC last week.
He/She/It	was	She was tired after work.
We/They	were	They were in the park.

### ◆ Negative Sentences

**was not = wasn't**

**were not = weren't**

**Examples:**

- I wasn't at school on Monday.
- They weren't ready for the test.
- He wasn't happy.



- You weren't late.

## ◆ Questions

**Was/Were + subject + rest of sentence?**

### Question

### Example Answer

Was she at work? Yes, she was. / No, she wasn't.

Were you late? Yes, I was. / No, I wasn't.

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## Practice Exercises

### ◆ Part A – Fill in the blanks with was or were.

1. It \_\_\_\_\_ cold last night.
  2. We \_\_\_\_\_ at the beach last weekend.
  3. She \_\_\_\_\_ sick yesterday.
  4. You \_\_\_\_\_ not home last night.
  5. They \_\_\_\_\_ happy to see us.
  6. I \_\_\_\_\_ busy this morning.
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### ◆ Part B – Rewrite the sentences in the negative form.

1. I was at the party. →
  2. He was excited. →
  3. They were in class. →
  4. She was tired. →
  5. We were ready. →
  6. It was sunny. →
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### ◆ Part C – Write questions using was or were.

1. (you / tired / after work?)
  2. (she / at school / yesterday?)
  3. (they / happy / to see you?)
  4. (it / cold / last night?)
  5. (he / at the meeting?)
  6. (you / on vacation last week?)
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## ✓ Answer Key (for final page of PDF)

### Part A

1. was
2. were
3. was
4. were
5. were
6. was

### Part B

1. I wasn't at the party.
2. He wasn't excited.
3. They weren't in class.
4. She wasn't tired.
5. We weren't ready.
6. It wasn't sunny.

### Part C

1. Were you tired after work?
2. Was she at school yesterday?
3. Were they happy to see you?
4. Was it cold last night?
5. Was he at the meeting?
6. Were you on vacation last week?