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When I Was Small

Simple Past Tense 1 - was / were

Date:

Grade:



Grammar Explained

- a) We use the **simple past tense** to talk about things that happened in the past. We change the verb 'be' ('is / am / are') into the **past tense** in the following way:

Simple Present	Simple Past
is / am	was
are	were

Was	Tommy smart?	Yes, he was .
Were	the cats hungry?	No, they were not / weren't .

- b) We use **time markers** to show that we are talking about things in the past.

The room	was	clean	yesterday.
Two students	were	sick	last week.
Annie	was not / wasn't	tall	two years ago.

A Mr Kim is thinking about the neighbours he had when he was young. Draw lines to match the verbs to the correct people.

1.  was

2.  were

a. ●

Sarah

b. ●

the girls

c. ●

Owen's
parents


d. ●


the
children


e. ●


their
uncle


B Mr Kim and Connie are talking about their family in the past. Circle the correct answers.

 : Dad, **1** was / were you fat ten years ago?


 : Yes, I **2** was / were . I ate a lot of snacks then.


 : **3** Was / Were Mum fat too then?


 : No, she **4** wasn't / weren't . She is always slim. She often does exercise.

 : Yes, she does yoga every week. How about me, Dad?

5 Was / Were I a fat baby eight years ago?

 : Yes, you **6** was / were . You had round cheeks when you were a baby. You were so cute!

 : I'm not fat now! How about Jojo?

 : It **7** was / were a fat puppy when it came to our home three years ago. It looked like a loaf of bread!

C Connie is writing a journal entry about her grandparents. Complete her journal entry with the given words. Circle the time markers in the sentences.

was

were

wasn't

weren't

e.g. Sixty years ago, Grandpa and Grandma ① _____ young.

They studied in the same school. Grandpa ② _____ good at Maths.

He joined many Maths competitions. Grandma ③ _____ good at

sports. She didn't enjoy PE lessons. They ④ _____ forgetful

fifty years ago. At that time, they could remember a lot of things.

Last night, Grandpa and Grandma got lost in the street. All of us

⑤ _____ worried. Luckily, Dad found them in the park and they

⑥ _____ safe. ' ⑦ _____ you afraid when you got lost yesterday ?'

I asked Grandma. 'Yes, I ⑧ _____ scared,' she replied.



Proofreading

D Underline the mistakes and write the correct answers on the lines.

1. Was Alan angry? Yes, he were. 1. _____

2. Are the boys sad last night? No, they weren't. 2. _____

3. The children was tired after they went swimming. 3. _____

4. I weren't sick this morning so I didn't go to school. ④ 4. _____

5. Nick was a good student last year. He was often late. ⑤ 5. _____

6. Kay and Sara was nice so they had few friends. ⑥ 6. _____



Daily Life Grammar




E Cody is writing a blog entry about how things were when Connie was born. Complete his blog entry with the help of the given words.


was were


not

http://www.blogworld.com/coolcody

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Nine years ago, there  ① _____ only three members in my family. One day, a new member came. Mum and Dad were so excited but I ② _____ worried.

The new member ③ _____ a baby girl. I didn't like her in the beginning. She looked so small. She ④ _____ noisy and sometimes smelly. Mum and Dad ⑤ _____ very busy looking after her. Dad  ⑥ _____ free to read me stories anymore. Mum ⑦ _____ so busy that she couldn't play with me. 'You should be a good brother,' they said. At that time, I ⑧ _____ happy because I didn't want to be an elder brother.

A few years later, the baby girl was still noisy but less smelly. She looked cute and cuddly. Her hands ⑨ _____ small and her eyes were big. I  ⑩ _____ lonely because I could play with her. I started to learn how to be a good brother. Sometimes, I helped Mum feed her. Sometimes, I shared my toys with her.

The baby girl was Connie. She is my sister.

