

6 Things in the Past

Questions – Was there / Were there +
Indefinite Pronouns – everybody / nobody

Date:

Grade:

Grandma, **was there** a wetland park 50 years ago?



No, **there wasn't**.

Did you have a mobile phone when you were young?



No, I didn't. **Nobody** had a mobile phone back then.

I guess I am lucky to live in modern times.



Grammar Explained

- a) We use **'Was there'** and **'Were there'** to ask if something existed in the past. We use **'there was'** and **'there were'** to show that something existed in the past.

Was there	a wetland park	30 years ago?
Were there	any shopping centres	

Yes, **there was**.

No, **there was not / wasn't**.

Yes, **there were**.

No, **there were not / weren't**.

There was	an airport	in the past.
There weren't	any digital cameras	

- b) We use the pronoun **'everybody'** to talk about every person in a group. We use the pronoun **'nobody'** to talk about no one.

Everybody	played hopscotch	when Mr Kim was a child.
Nobody	had an iPhone	

C Cody is asking Grandma about her primary school life. Complete their conversation with the correct words.

Grandma, were you a good student in primary school?

Yes, I was. ① _____ a library in my school. I always studied there.

② _____ any computers in your school?

No, ③ _____ any computers but ④ _____ a playground. I played with my classmates there.

⑤ _____ a big garden in your school?

Yes, ⑥ _____ . ⑦ _____ many lovely flowers.



⑧ _____ a hall in your school?

No, ⑨ _____ . We had assemblies in the playground.



Proofreading

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

1. Were there a piano in your home last year? 1. _____
2. Everybody had an Octopus card 30 years ago. 2. _____
3. There wasn't many cars on the road. The air was fresher.  3. _____
4. Nobody liked playing hopscotch when Dad was ten. He played it with his friends every day.  4. _____
5. There were some juice in the fridge yesterday. 5. _____



Daily Life Grammar

E Cody is writing a blog entry about the past. Complete his blog entry with the given words.

everybody nobody

there was there wasn't there were there weren't

Cody's Gogoblog



http://codykim.gogoblog.com



Today, Grandma showed me some old photos and told me about people's lives in the past. Fifty years ago, ① _____ any mobile phones in Hong Kong. ② _____ used home phones to make phone calls. Also, ③ _____ had an Octopus card. ④ _____ paid in cash.

I also found out that ⑤ _____ any computers back then. However, ⑥ _____ had a radio at home. They liked listening to radio dramas. ⑦ _____ any electronic games but ⑧ _____ many handmade toys. Grandma was especially good at making beanbags. Also, ⑨ _____ a Disneyland but ⑩ _____ an amusement park called Lai Yuen in Lai Chi Kok. ⑪ _____ many animals inside. Grandma liked going there with Grandpa when they were young. However, it closed down before I was born.

I think it wasn't so bad being a kid in the past. It must be fun to make our own toys and visit Lai Yuen!

