

# 8 Things Are Changing

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Grade : \_\_\_\_\_



Grammar Notes

## Simple Past Tense 1



Captain America **was** thin and weak. Now, he is so strong. Can I be as strong as him?



We use the **simple past tense** to talk about things that happened in the past. We form the **simple past tense** of the verb 'be' (is / am / are) in the following ways:

Present	Past
is / am	<b>was</b>
are	<b>were</b>

I	<b>was</b>	naughty.
He / She / It	<b>was</b>	short.
You / We / They	<b>were</b>	busy.

### Grammar Tip

We can also use **nouns** after the words 'was' and 'were'.  
e.g. He **was** a student in 2015.

We put '**not**' after '**was / were**' to form negative sentences in the **simple past tense**.

She	<b>was not / wasn't</b>	naughty.
They	<b>were not / weren't</b>	busy.

### Grammar Tip

To form a yes-no question in the **simple past tense**, we put '**was / were**' at the beginning.  
e.g. **Was** he short in the past?

## Warm-up

**A** Mr Fan is thinking about his life when he was a teenager. Follow the example and circle the correct items that go with 'was'.

e.g.

Sarah's necklace	the socks	my paper planes	his uncle
our pencil cases	Sam	the women	the coloured paper
his school bag	some marbles	Mr and Mrs Smith	my watches
the children	the video game	Miss Lee	some herbal tea



We usually use the following **time phrases** with the **simple past tense** to talk about things that happened in the past. We usually put the **time phrases** at the beginning or at the end of sentences.

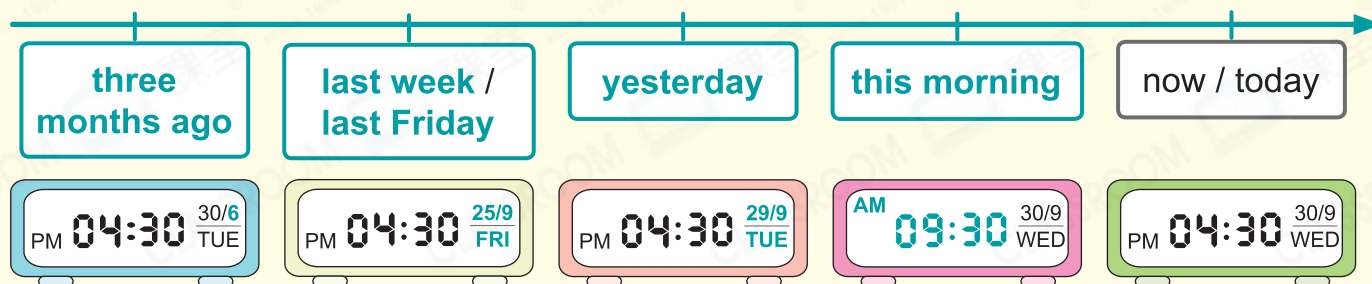
We **were** naughty **a few days ago**.

**This morning**, I **was** tired.

## Grammar Tip

When we put a time phrase at the beginning of a sentence, we put a comma after it.

Some common **time phrases**:



## Common Errors

- ✓ Today, we **were** lucky.  
 ✗ Today, we **are** lucky.

## Grammar Tip

We sometimes use the **simple past tense** with 'today', especially when writing diary entries.

- Matt and I **are / were** late for school today.
- It **is / was** a bad day today.

## Warm-up

**B** Jasper is telling Ellie about what happened in the past. Circle the correct answers.

- I was very skinny **last year / today**.
- Two years ago / Now**, Dad was strong.
- Four years ago / Four years later**, you were scared to visit the dentist.
- Matt ran fast in the PE lesson **yesterday / one day ago**.
- Last night, / Last night** Mum and Dad came home very late because they were too busy at work.
- It's July **every day / now**. We moved into this flat in July **three years ago / every year**.



## Practice

**G** Jasper is talking about his friends. Look at the pictures and fill in the blanks with the correct form of 'be' and the correct time phrases.

① \_\_\_\_\_, John ② \_\_\_\_\_ thin. Now, he ③ \_\_\_\_\_ fat. He has a big belly and a round face.

Four years ago

Now



④ \_\_\_\_\_, Polly ⑤ \_\_\_\_\_ busy with her homework. Now, she has more free time. She ⑥ \_\_\_\_\_ free.

Last Saturday

Now



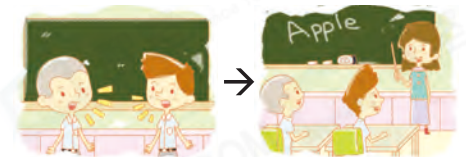
Hint: Q9

Are they noisy now?

Dan and Matt ⑦ \_\_\_\_\_ very noisy ⑧ \_\_\_\_\_. Now, they ⑨ \_\_\_\_\_ noisy any more.

This morning

Now



## Proofreading

**D** There is one mistake in each question. Correct the underlined mistakes for Questions 1-2. Underline and correct the mistakes for Questions 3-7.

1. The boys were quiet one day ago. 1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Last night, I was tired. Now, I was full of energy. 2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Vicky is heavy now. She was light when she is small. 3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. I was sick this night but I am fine now. 4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Mum was good at cooking a few years ago, so Dad taught her how to cook. 5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Yesterday, Dan and Matt wasn't naughty. They behaved well today. 6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Jess was weak two years later. 7. \_\_\_\_\_



Hint: Q5 & 6

Correct the mistakes so that the sentences make sense.

# Grammar in Context



Text Type:

Personal recount



Ellie is writing a personal recount. Look at the pictures. Follow the examples and complete the recount with the correct form of 'be' and the correct time phrases.

## The Fan Family



Uncle Bob **e.g.** \_\_\_\_\_ was not \_\_\_\_\_ healthy  
**e.g.** \_\_\_\_\_ last year \_\_\_\_\_. He ① \_\_\_\_\_  
 fat and heavy. Now, he ② \_\_\_\_\_ slimmer  
 and stronger.



Hint: Q5

Look for clues in the picture.

③ \_\_\_\_\_, Aunt Sarah and Uncle Bob  
 ④ \_\_\_\_\_ sick. They had to take some  
 rest and could not do the housework. The living room  
 ⑤ \_\_\_\_\_ tidy. Jasper and I  
 ⑥ \_\_\_\_\_ lazy, we kept playing with  
 the toys but did not do the clean-up. This morning, we  
 ⑦ \_\_\_\_\_ helpful. We swept the  
 floor and dusted the shelves.



Hint: Q9

Look at the calendars  
 and work out the  
 correct time phrase  
 to use.



Max ⑧ \_\_\_\_\_  
 naughty ⑨ \_\_\_\_\_ when I walked it.  
 Max ⑩ \_\_\_\_\_ loud and it  
 ⑪ \_\_\_\_\_ friendly to other people.  
 I ⑫ \_\_\_\_\_ angry about that. Now, it  
 ⑬ \_\_\_\_\_ kind and quiet. We  
 ⑭ \_\_\_\_\_ happy to see that.

