

Pre-Lesson Comprehension

Target Language: *simple past tense (be verbs)*

Focus: You will learn the *simple past tense* to talk about finished actions and events. You will learn how to ask and answer with *be verbs* in this lesson.

Read and understand the target language below.

We use the **simple past tense** to talk about actions and events that happened in the past. These actions and events have finished. Let's look at an example:

- Ben **was** my English teacher last year. He **was** an interesting teacher.



In this example, the class with Ben was last year. It has finished, and the person doesn't have a class with Ben now. Here are a few more examples. Singular subjects use: **was (not)**. Plural subjects use: **were (not)**.

- singular:**
- The trip to Japan **was** very interesting.
 - The flight to Japan **was** long. It took ten hours.
 - The flight **was not** on time. We landed an hour late.

- plural:**
- The prices in Tokyo **were** very expensive.
 - The temples in Kyoto **were** very beautiful.
 - The movies on the plane **were not** interesting.

With **closed** and **open questions**, we use the following structures:

Closed Questions: was / were + subject + object

Q: **Were** the prices expensive in Tokyo?

A: Yes, they **were** very expensive.

Open Questions: wh-question + was / were + subject + object

Q: **What was** good about your trip?

A: The temples **were** good. They **were** very interesting.

Q: **How was** the food in Japan?

A: The food **was** very good. The sushi **was** very fresh.

Pre-Lesson Practice

Target Language: *simple past tense (be verbs)*

Practice: Now try some activities to help you use the target language.

Correct the mistakes in the conversation below. There are six mistakes.

Alex: Hey Sam, welcome back. How were your trip to Hong Kong?

Sam: It is terrible!

Alex: Really? What happened?

Sam: The weather were terrible. It rained every day and it were too hot.

Alex: What else happened?

Sam: The flight was late, and the hotel are crowded. The restaurants in Hong Kong was expensive.

Alex: Maybe you should stay home next time!

Answer the following questions with complete sentences.

Q: Where were you born?

A: _____

Q: Was your last vacation overseas?

A: _____

Q: How long was your last vacation?

A: _____

Answers

Target Language: *simple past tense (be verbs)*

Correct the mistakes in the conversation below. There are six mistakes.

Alex: Hey Sam, welcome back. How **was** your trip to Hong Kong?

Sam: It **was** terrible!

Alex: Really? What happened?

Sam: The weather **was** terrible. It rained every day and it **was** too hot.

Alex: What else happened?

Sam: The flight was late, and the hotel **was** crowded. The restaurants in Hong Kong **were** expensive.

Alex: Maybe you should stay home next time!

Answer the following questions with complete sentences.

Note: Answers will vary.

Q: Where were you born?

A: I was born in Boston.

Q: Was your last vacation overseas?

A: Yes, it was. My last vacation was overseas.

Q: How long was your last vacation?

A: My last vacation was one week.