



Presentation

Use *was/were* to talk about the past.

Present	Past
am/is	was
are	were

*I/He/She/It **was** born in 1930.*

*I/He/She/It **was** English.*

*You/We/They **were** born in 1930.*

*You/We/They **were** Spanish.*

Key vocabulary **Special occasions:** birthday, party, new year, wedding

Exercises

1 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Martin was born | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 My sister and her husband | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Today is January 2nd. Yesterday | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 I was at | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 You were late | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 We were | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- a on holiday.
b was New Year's day.
c ~~on 25th May, 2001.~~
d for work.
e were married last month.
f a birthday party.

2 Choose the correct option.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 I <u>was</u> / were born in 1999. | 7 Yesterday, we was / were at a birthday party. |
| 2 They was / were born in 1989. | 8 It was / were cold last night. |
| 3 The party was / were great fun. | 9 You was / were eight years old in this photo. |
| 4 My sisters was / were at the party. | 10 Sorry I was / were late for work this morning. |
| 5 It was / were my brother's birthday. | 11 Last week, it was / were the Chinese New Year. |
| 6 This is a photo of my parent's wedding.
It was / were in 1955. | 12 Sally and James was / were in Paris at the weekend. |

3 Complete the text with was or were.



Barack Obama ¹ was the 44th president of the United States. He ² was the president for eight years from 2008 to 2016. He ³ was born in Honolulu in 1961. His parents ⁴ were from different countries. His father ⁵ was from Kenya and his mother ⁶ was from the USA. At university, Barack ⁷ was a good student. Afterwards he ⁸ was a lawyer and then a politician in the US Senate. The wedding of Barack to Michelle ⁹ was in 1992 and their daughters ¹⁰ were born in 1998 and 2001. In 2008 he ¹¹ was 47 years old and he ¹² was the first African-American president.

4 Complete the email with be. Use the present simple (am/are/is) or the past simple form (was/were).

Send Now

Send Later

Save

Signature

Options

Insert

Categories

Projects

To:

Subject:

Attachments:

Font

Font Size

B

I

U

T

Hi. How ¹ are you?

I ² was away at the weekend. It ³ was my brother and sister's birthday party. They ⁴ were twins*. They ⁵ were born in 2000 so now they ⁶ are 18 years old. It ⁷ was fun, but today I ⁸ am very tired!

(*twins = brothers and sisters born on the same day)