

Past Tense Verbs

WALT: Can I use the verbs 'was' and 'were' correctly?

*Here are a few sentences below with the verb 'was' or 'were'
Have a think about what you notice about the sentences..*

I **was** happy living there.

You **were** always so kind to me.

He **was** the best runner in the school.

They **were** stuck on the bus for hours.

It **was** unusual to see Emily crying.

*When do you notice the word 'was' being used?
When do you notice the word 'were' being used?*

What does it mean by **singular** and **plural**?

Singular

I was
You **were**
He was
She was
It was

Plural

We were
You were
They were

The rule of using 'was' and 'were'

*If the subject (he/I/she) is **singular** then you must use 'was'
If the subject is **plural** then you must use 'were'*

The only exception is **'you were'** which will always take the verb 'were'
It doesn't matter if it's singular or plural.

Sometimes you might see 'I were' and 'he were' instead of 'I was', 'he was', 'it was' etc. This form of the verb is used to show **fantasy** or **situations** which are unlikely to happen.

For example:

1. If **I were** more confident, I would be an actor.
 2. I wish **she weren't** so lazy!
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Task: Look at the sentences below. They are all incorrect, can you write them out correctly? The first one is done for you.

1. He **were** eating an apple. --> He was eating an apple.
2. They **was** going to a party.
3. She **were** holding a beautiful picture.
4. We **was** in the middle of a fun game.
5. On Sunday, I **were** helping my mum bake a delicious cake.

Task: Find the 'was' or 'were' worksheet in your pack. Can you complete the sheet?

Using 'was' and 'were'

1. Complete the following sentences using 'was' and 'were' correctly.

- a) Julie knew that she _____ going to be last in the race.
- b) Noah told his mum he _____ not going to walk the dog.
- c) If I _____ in charge, I'd make the holidays longer!
- d) I _____ really excited about visiting my new class.
- e) We _____ all looking forward to the party.