**PAST SIMPLE DI *BE* E PAST SIMPLE**

**Exercises**

**1 Complete the sentences with the correct answer, A or B.**

**1** Jack and his family .............................................. on holiday in Mexico last week.

A wasn’t B weren’t

**2** They .............................................. at the cinema last night.

A were B was

**3** She .............................................. at school yesterday because she was sick.

A weren’t B wasn’t

**4** Where .............................................. you on Saturday?

A was B were

**5** When .............................................. his exam?

A were B was

**2** **Complete the sentences with *could*/*couldn’t* and the verbs given.**

**1** When I was six I .............................................. Italian, but I can now. (speak)

**2** My grandmother .............................................. emails when she was young because there wasn’t the Internet! (send)

**3** .............................................. they .............................................. any cheap souvenirs apart from shortbread? (buy)

**4** Freddie .............................................. his tickets online, so we can do the same. (reserve)

**5** We .............................................. our passports, so we missed our flight. (find)

**3** **Complete the sentences with the correct past simple form of *be* or *can*.**

**1** .............................................. (be) it wet or sunny last May? I can’t remember.

**2** We walked a long way yesterday so we .............................................. (be) tired when we got home.

**3** The water was very cold at the swimming pool so we .............................................. (can) swim.

**4** How many people .............................................. (be) on the plane?

**5** He told me where I .............................................. (can) buy tickets, but I couldn’t find the place.

**6** I .............................................. (be) in France for the weekend with my cousins.

**4** **Re-write these sentences in the negative form.**

**1** The teacher gave us lots of homework yesterday.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**2** My brother was working for a farmer during the summer holidays.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**3** They asked the mechanic to fix the car.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**4** I wanted to be a cook when I was young.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**5** We were helping in my parents’ restaurant over the holidays.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**5** **Correct the mistakes in the sentences. One sentence is correct.**

**1** Last morning, I did my homework before lunch.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**2** We did see some beautiful buildings in Prague.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**3** I couldn’t understood the English teacher today.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**4** The day before yesterday, we went to London by train.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**5** Why was you at home this morning?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**6** The excursion to the Pyramids were very interesting.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**6** **Complete the short dialogues with the correct past simple form of the verbs given.**

**1** *A:* You’ve got a lot of bags!

*B:* Yes. We .............................................. (buy) a lot of food for the party at the supermarket this morning.

**2** *A:* Can you come to the cinema this evening?

*B:* No, sorry. Our teacher .............................................. (give) us lots of homework so I have to stay at home.

**3** *A:* How was your holiday?

*B:* Great. I really .............................................. (like) Spain!

**4** *A:* I .............................................. (watch) a programme about Mexico on TV last night.

*B:* Yes. There are some amazing places there.

**5** *A:* The food in Italy is fantastic, isn’t it?

*B:* Yes. I .............................................. (eat) lots of pizza, pasta and ice cream. I must do some exercise now!

**7** **Complete the short dialogues with the correct past simple form of the verbs given.**

**1** *A:* Did you like travelling in cars when you were a child?

*B:* No, I .............................................. (do). I always felt sick.

**2** *A:* Why did Wendy come home early?

*B:* She .............................................. (not go) swimming after school because the swimming pool was closed.

**3** *A:* Did you find the book you were looking for yesterday?

*B:* Yes, but I .............................................. (not buy) it in the end because it was too expensive.

**4** *A:* How was the film?

*B:* I .............................................. (like) it. It was very exciting.

**5** *A:* Where .............................................. (you/go) yesterday?

*B:* To the park. We played football all afternoon.

**8** **Choose the correct alternatives to complete the sentences.**

**1** I **didn’t watch / wasn’t watching** scary films when I was a child.

**2** We **arrived / were arriving** at the theatre at 6.30.

**3** I **tried / was trying** to write a story for our English class when you phoned me last night.

**4** He **bought / was buying** that new computer game last Saturday. He’s playing it now.

**5** I **read / was reading** a good book before you arrived. It was really interesting.

**9** **Correct the mistakes in the sentences.**

**1** Where were Helen and her family lived when her parents decided to move to Paris?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**2** I didn’t like the concert, so I was leaving after half an hour.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**3** Why you decided to study languages?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**4** Jenny wasn’t finishing the book yesterday.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**5** How long did you waiting for the bus this morning?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**6** She didn’t wanted to work in a hospital. She preferred a small clinic.

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**10** **Put the words in order to make questions.**

**1** playing / professor / was / actor / that / the / the / ?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**2** she / want / did / to become / actress / an / ?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**3** you / get / a / factory / job / in / the / did / ?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**4** your / father / work / in a / did / busy office / ?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**5** the / chef / make / today / all this food / did / ?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**6** were / the / waiting / mechanic / you / for / ?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**11** **ENGLISH IN USE Choose the best answers (A, B, or C) to complete the text.**

**My favourite holiday**

My favourite holiday was when I was five years old. My mum and dad (1) .............................................. me and my brother, James, to Sweden for a winter holiday. We went (2) .............................................. ship. It took two days and I (3) .............................................. very ill, but it (4) .............................................. very exciting!

When we arrived in Sweden, it was very cold and we (5) .............................................. a lot of snow. We (6) .............................................. for a long time, and then we came to a small house. It was beautiful. There were five houses and a shop near our house. There wasn’t a TV so we (7) .............................................. watch films, but we played games with Mum and Dad. One day, we (8) .............................................. skiing. It was the best holiday of my life!

**1** A gave B took C made

**2** A on B in C by

**3** A felt B went C did

**4** A was B is C were

**5** A looked B watched C saw

**6** A held B ran C drove

**7** A weren’t B couldn’t C mustn’t

**8** A were B went C stopped

**12** **ENGLISH IN USE Complete the email with one word or a contraction in each gap.**

Hi Beth,

How are you? I started my holiday job last week. I (1) .............................................. at the farm shop for three mornings. It was good fun. Then I went shopping! I bought lots of DVDs, but I (2) .............................................. buy the new Keira Knightley DVD because I borrowed it from Jason. He was (3) .............................................. at the farm last week too, but outdoors.

(4) .............................................. you get the summer job you wanted? I phoned you this morning, but there was no answer. Maybe you (5) .............................................. sleeping. Last weekend, I (6) .............................................. to a concert with Susanna. We bought the tickets a long time ago. It (7) .............................................. amazing!

(8) .............................................. did you go last weekend? I phoned you then as well, but you weren’t at home.

Call me soon!

Amanda