



Expressing Past Time

1 USING BE: PAST TIME

PRESENT TIME	PAST TIME
(a) I am in class today . (c) Alice is at the library today . (e) My friends are at home today .	(b) I was in class yesterday . (d) Alice was at the library yesterday . (f) My friends were at home yesterday .
SIMPLE PAST TENSE OF BE	
Singular I was you were (one person) she was he was it was	Plural we were you were (more than one person) they were
	I she he it } + was we you they } + were

EXERCISE 1:

Change the sentences to the past.

- Bob is in class today. → *He was in class yesterday too.*
- I'm in class today. → *I was in class yesterday too.*
- Mary is at the library today.
- We're in class today.
- You're busy today.
- I'm happy today.
- The classroom is hot today.
- Ann is in her office today.
- Tom is in his office today.
- Ann and Tom are in their offices today.

EXERCISE 2

Talk about today and yesterday.

Example: I'm in class.

Response: I'm in class **today**. I was in class **yesterday too**.

Example: (...) is in class.

Response: (...) is in class **today**. She/He was in class **yesterday too**.

1. We're in class.
2. I'm in class.
3. (...) is in class
4. (...) and (...) are in class.
5. (...) is here.
6. (...) is absent.
7. I'm tired.
8. (...) and (...) are (in the front row).
9. The door is open/closed.
10. It's hot/cold.

2 PAST OF BE: NEGATIVE

- (a) I **was not** in class yesterday.
 (b) I **wasn't** in class yesterday.

NEGATIVE CONTRACTIONS: **was + not = wasn't**
were + not = weren't

- (c) They **were not** at home last night.
 (d) They **weren't** at home last night.

<i>I</i>	} + wasn't	<i>we</i>	} + weren't
<i>she</i>		<i>you</i>	
<i>he</i>		<i>they</i>	
<i>it</i>			

EXERCISE 3: Study the time expressions. Then complete the sentences. Use **wasn't** or **weren't**. Use a past time expression.

PRESENT

today →
this morning →
this afternoon →
tonight →
this week →

PAST

yesterday
yesterday morning
yesterday afternoon
last night
last week

1. Ken is here today, but he wasn't here yesterday.
2. I'm at home tonight, but I wasn't at home last night.
3. Olga is busy today, but _____
4. We're in class this morning, but _____
5. Tom is at the library tonight, but _____
6. It's cold this week, but _____
7. Alex and Rita are at work this afternoon, but _____

8. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are at home tonight, but _____
9. You're in class today, but _____
10. Dr. Ruckman is in her office this afternoon, but _____

3 PAST OF BE: QUESTIONS

YES/NO QUESTIONS	SHORT ANSWER + (LONG ANSWER)
(a) Were you in class yesterday? (be) + (subject)	→ Yes, I was. (I was in class yesterday.) → No, I wasn't. (I wasn't in class yesterday.)
(b) Was Carlos at home last night? (be) + (subject)	→ Yes, he was. (He was at home last night.) → No, he wasn't. (He wasn't at home last night.)
INFORMATION QUESTIONS	SHORT ANSWER + (LONG ANSWER)
(c) Where were you yesterday? Where + (be) + (subject)	→ In class. (I was in class yesterday.)
(d) Where was Jennifer last night? Where + (be) + (subject)	→ At home. (She was at home last night.)

■ EXERCISE 4: Make questions and give short answers.

1. (you \ at home \ last night)

A: Were you at home last night?

B: No, I wasn't.

2. (Mr. Yamamoto \ absent from class \ yesterday)

A: _____

B: Yes, _____

3. (Alex and Sue \ at home \ last night)

A: _____

B: Yes, _____

4. (you \ nervous \ the first day of class)

A: _____

B: No, _____