

The Simple Past Tense

Verbs with '-ing'



Simple Past Tense

We use the **simple past** tense to talk about events that are **completely in the past** and **have already happened**.

When you use the '-ing' verb form with the **auxiliary verb**, it shows the action was carrying on for some time.

e.g. Cassie **was painting** in school yesterday.
He **was riding** his bike around the park.
They **were reading** in the library.

Using the verb 'to be'

As you know, the irregular verb '**to be**' is very common in the English language.

Just as you learned the different forms of 'to be' for **present tense -ing** words, you will have to do the same for **past tense -ing** words.

Singular (one)

I **was**

You **were**

He **was**

She **was**

It **was**

Plural (more than one)

We **were**

You **were**

They **were**



Can you match the correct past tense form of the verb 'to be' to each pronoun?

I _____ shopping

You _____ shopping

He / She _____ shopping

We _____ shopping

You (plural) _____ shopping

They _____ shopping

were

was

were

were

was

were

Answers to the slide above:

Can you match the correct past tense form of the verb 'to be' to each pronoun?

I was shopping

You were shopping

He / She was shopping

We were shopping

You (plural) were shopping

They were shopping

were

was

were

were

was

were

Sometimes the different forms of 'to be' can act as auxiliary verbs

Remember, **auxiliary verbs** are '**helping verbs**' that appear with another main verb in a sentence.

For example:

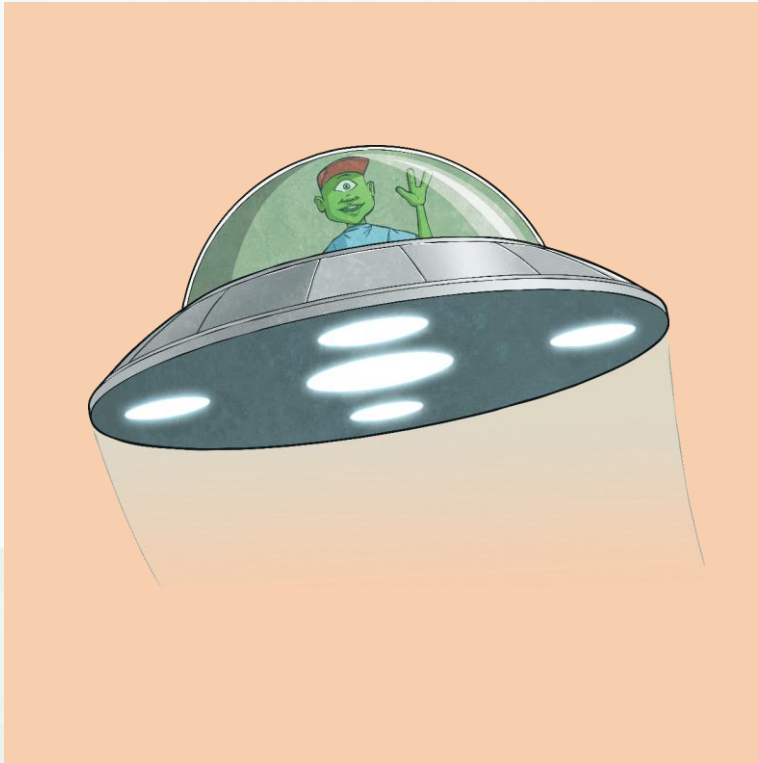
'**was**' is used as an **auxiliary verb** or '**helping verb**'

He **was** walking the dog.

'**walking**' is the main verb



Can you use the correct past form of 'to be' in these sentences where they are used as 'helping' verbs?



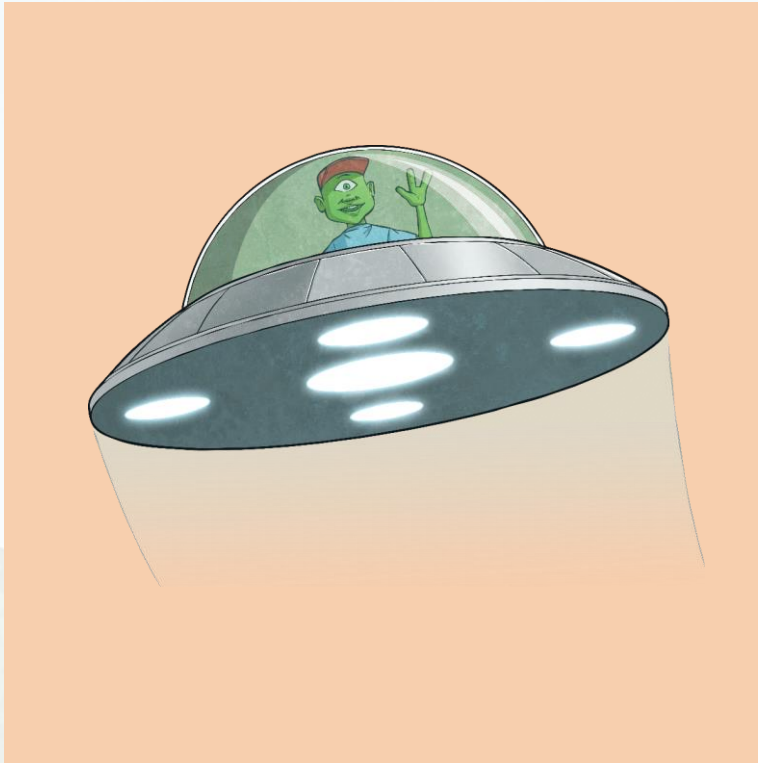
Timmy _____ waving from his spaceship.



Sophie and Josh _____ watching TV together.

Answers to the slide above:

Can you use the correct past form of 'to be' in these sentences where they are used as 'helping' verbs?



Timmy was waving from his spaceship.



Sophie and Josh were watching TV together.

Which sentence uses the **past** form of the 'helping' or auxiliary verb 'to be' correctly?

a) He were putting on his coat.

b) They was eating their dinner.

c) I am walking home with my brother.

d) She was listening to her favourite music.

Answer to the slide above:

Which sentence uses the **past** form of the 'helping' or auxiliary verb 'to be' correctly?

a) He were putting on his coat.

b) They was eating their dinner.

c) I am walking home with my brother.

d) She was listening to her favourite music. ✓

Can you decide which verb form is correct?

1. The children in Year 2 was watching Toy Story.
The children in Year 2 were watching Toy Story.
2. I was playing football with my sister yesterday.
I were playing football with my sister yesterday.
3. Jeremy were driving his car down the road.
Jeremy was driving his car down the road.
4. We was building a fort in the garden.
We were building a fort in the garden.

Answers to the slide above:

Can you decide which verb form is correct?

1. The children in Year 2 was watching Toy Story.
The children in Year 2 were watching Toy Story. ✓
2. I was playing football with my sister yesterday. ✓
I were playing football with my sister yesterday.
3. Jeremy were driving his car down the road.
Jeremy was driving his car down the road. ✓
4. We was building a fort in the garden.
We were building a fort in the garden. ✓

Your Task

Open your Punctuation and Grammar home learning pack.

Turn to page **27** titled '**Verbs with -ing: past tense**' and complete the activities on this page.

To challenge yourself, have a go at watching the video and completing the activities on this page:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zrqqtfr/articles/z3dbg82>