

Teens: Past tense of 'to be' worksheet

A) Look at these pairs of sentences. One sentence has a mistake. One sentence is correct. Underline the correct sentence. Look at the example.

0]

- a) Elvis Presley were an American singer.
- b) Elvis Presley was an American singer.

1]

- a) Sherlock Holmes was a famous detective.
- b) Sherlock Holmes were a famous detective.

2]

- a) Agatha Christie wasn't a dancer. She is a writer.
- b) Agatha Christie wasn't a dancer. She was a writer.

3]

- a) Mozart and Beethoven were composers.
- b) Mozart and Beethoven was composers.

4]

- a) Mrs Beckham were one of the Spice Girls.
- b) Mrs Beckham was one of the Spice Girls.

5]

- a) Was John Lennon a scientist? No, he isn't.
- b) Was John Lennon a scientist? No, he wasn't.

6]

- a) Were Christopher Columbus and Michelangelo Italians? Yes, they were.
- b) Were Christopher Columbus and Michelangelo Italians? Yes, they was.

7]

- a) Where is Albert Einstein born? He is born in Germany.
- b) Where was Albert Einstein born? He was born in Germany.

8]

- a) Was Anna Pavlova and Rudolph Nureyev ballet dancers? Yes, they was.
- b) Were Anna Pavlova and Rudolph Nureyev ballet dancers? Yes, they were.

9]

- a) John Lennon wasn't a Rolling Stone. He was a Beatle.
- b) John Lennon didn't a Rolling Stone. He does a Beatle.

10]

- a) The animals weren't hungry. They were thirsty.
- b) The animals not were hungry. They were thirsty.



B) Underline the correct words in these sentences. Look at the example.

- 0) The red flowers | are | is | were | on the table.
- 1) Billie Holiday | were | was | weren't | a famous singer.
- 2) Frédéric Chopin | wasn't | weren't | isn't | French, he was Polish.
- 3) Frank Sinatra | is | was | were | an American singer.
- 4) When | was | were | is | Mozart born?
- 5) | Weren't | Was | Isn't | Rudolph Nureyev a dancer or a singer?
- 6) | Were | Was | Did | Marilyn Monroe a famous actress? Yes, she was.
- 7) | Was | Wasn't | Were | the Wright brothers American inventors?
- 8) How old | was | were | are | you last year?
- 9) | Is | Were | Was | Sandra and Alice at school yesterday?
- 10) Giuseppe Verdi | was | are | is | born in Italy in 1813.

C) Correct the mistakes in these sentences. Look at the example.

- 0) Where ~~was~~ you yesterday?
Where were you yesterday?
- 1) Marie Curie ~~were~~ a Polish scientist.

- 2) ~~Are~~ you at school yesterday?

- 3) Was Charles Dickens an American writer? No, he ~~isn't~~.

- 4) Who ~~was~~ Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers?

- 5) Napoleon ~~were~~ born in Corsica.

- 6) How old ~~are~~ you in 2002?

- 7) ~~Is~~ John Lennon one of the Spice Girls? No, he wasn't.

- 8) How many students ~~was~~ in your class yesterday?

- 9) Mrs Henderson ~~were~~ my favourite teacher.

- 10) Mohamed Ali ~~weren't~~ a great singer.
