

Total English

Starter

Past experiences

1 Rewrite the sentences in the negative.

- a) I was happy at school.
- b) Dan and Elsa were in my class.
- c) Yasmin was a good student.
- d) Oliver was my best friend.
- e) Janie and Bernard were at home last night.
- f) Carole was late this morning.
- g) The mountains were beautiful.
- h) They were Xavier's books.

2 Reorder the words to make questions.

- a) were / you / Where / yesterday / afternoon?
- b) they / Were / at / school / happy?
- c) favourite / was / your / Who / teacher?
- d) we / Were / good / students?
- e) was / school / your / Where?
- f) name / What / his / was?
- g) you / were / Where / last week?
- h) the / lesson / Was / interesting?

3 Write a paragraph about a past experience or choose one from the box.

your first day at college or university
your last theatre trip

your first English lesson
your last good party

Use *was/were* and time expressions. Read your paragraph to your partner.

Total English

Starter

Past experiences

TEACHER'S NOTES:

Aim: to provide further practice of past of *to be*: negatives and questions and talking about past experience. This worksheet is designed to be used in conjunction with unit 9.2.

Time: 40 minutes

Materials: copy of the worksheet for each student

- 1 Students rewrite the sentences using the negative past of the verb *to be*. Elicit answers from the class.

Answers:

- a) I wasn't happy at school.
- b) Dan and Elsa weren't in my class.
- c) Yasmin wasn't a good student.
- d) Oliver wasn't my best friend.
- e) Janie and Bernard weren't at home last night.
- f) Carole wasn't late this morning.
- g) The mountains weren't beautiful.
- h) They weren't Xavier's books.

- 2 Students reorder the words to make questions in the past. Elicit answers from the class.

Answers:

- a) Where were you yesterday afternoon?
- b) Were they happy at school?
- c) Who was your favourite teacher?
- d) Were we good students?
- e) Where was your school?
- f) What was his name?
- g) Where were you last week?
- h) Was the lesson interesting?

- 3 Students write a paragraph about a past experience of their own choice or they can choose a topic from the box. Monitor while they write to help with any vocabulary and to check they are using the target language correctly. Students read their paragraph to their partner.

