**TOPIC: Simple Past Tense**

**Verb to Be**

**USE**

1. We use the past simple for actions with happened at a definite stated time in the past, that is, we know when they happened.

**WITH VERB TO BE**

* **WAS**- she/ he/ it/ I
* **WERE**- they/ you/ we

**Examples of affirmative sentences**:

* I **was** in hospital two weeks ago
* I **was** your classmate in primary school
* They **were** in Korea last year.
* I say to your mother you **were** sad.

**Examples of negative sentences**:

* My classmate Jess **was not / wasn’t** at school last week.
* Your parents **were not / weren’t** on vacation last month
* I **was not** / wasn’t busy last night.
* They **were** / weren’t sick

**Examples of interrogative sentences**:

* **Were** you in hospital? Yes, I was
* **Were** they your friends? No, they weren’t
* **Were** your parents at the hospital? No, they were not/ weren’t
* **Were** they in Korea? Yes, they were / No, they were not/ weren’t

**Examples of interrogative sentences using wh- questions:**

* Who **was** with you at home? My mother was with me at home.
* Who **were** with you at school? My classmates Anna and Beth were with me at school
* Where **were** you yesterday night? I was at home
* Why **was** she absent? Because she was sick.
* Why **were** you sad? Because my mother was sick
* Who **was** your best friend at primary school? Susan was my best friend

**TIME EXPRESSIONS**

Time expressions used with the past simple include:

Yesterday, last week, last year, last month, two days / weeks / months, years ago, in 2005, last Monday / Tuesday, then, when.

**EXERCISES**

Ex1. Ask and answer questions as in the example

A: Where were you at 8 o´clock yesterday?

B: I was at the cinema.

1. You/ cinema
2. Helen/ park
3. Tom and Mary/ theater
4. Ana/ work

Ex2. Give the Spanish equivalents for these time expressions

1. Yesterday
2. Last week
3. Two days
4. Years ago
5. In 1975

Ex3.Put the words in the correct order to make questions

1. Was/ with/ you/ who?
2. The meeting/ at/were/ people/ how many?
3. You/ were/ sad/ why?
4. Open/ was/ shop/ the
5. Were / much/ tickets/ the/ how?

Ex4- Complete the following sentences using the past tense of the verb to Be

* My children \_\_\_ happy with the new toys
* These exercises \_\_\_ very difficult
* Your brother \_\_\_ at work yesterday because he \_\_\_ sick at home.
* \_\_\_\_ this subject difficult for you?
* Who \_\_ at the door?
* When \_\_\_ your birthday?

Ex5. Translate into English the following sentences

* Algunos de mis compañeros de aula estaban enfermos la semana pasada.
* Yo estaba muy ocupada ayer en la noche.
* Él era mi mejor amigo cuando yo tenía 15 años
* Tú no eras el mejor estudiante del aula
* Ella no estaba conmigo en el banco
* Mis padres no estaban en casa
* ¿Dónde tú estabas en el 2017?
* ¿Estaba la comida deliciosa?
* ¿Quiénes estaban contigo?
* ¿Era tu hermana gorda?
* ¿Cuándo estaba él aquí?

**CONVERSATION**

Jessica is talking to one of her friend who was on vacation last month

T: Sandra you were not here last month. Were you on vacation?

S: Oh yes, I was at my parents´ home in Matanzas. They were very happy because I was with them for some days.

T: I was worried about you. By the way, how was the trip?

S: It was great.

T: Was your sister with you?

S: No, she wasn’t. She was really busy at her work.