

Answer Key

I. PAST SIMPLE OF THE VERB 'TO BE'

Use **was/were/wasn't/weren't**. The first sentence has been done for you.

Who **was** Nikola Tesla? Nikola Tesla **was** an engineer and scientist known for designing the alternating-current (AC) electric system, which is used across the world today. He **was** also responsible for creating the 'Tesla coil', which is still used in radio technology.

Tesla **was** born in Smiljan, Croatia, on 10th July, 1856. There **were** five children in the family. His siblings **were** called Dane, Angelina, Milka and Marica. Times **were** hard because in 1856 their country **was** under Turkish occupation and many people **were** hungry and poor. Tesla's mother's name **was** Georgina Đuka Tesla. She **was** his biggest inspiration for working with electricity. When he **was** little, she would invent small electrical appliances in her free time, such as a mechanical egg beater. Tesla's father, Milutin Tesla, **was** a Serbian Orthodox priest and a writer, and he wanted his son to join the priesthood. But Nikola **wasn't** interested in religion, only in science.

Unfortunately, Nikola Tesla **wasn't** rewarded for his inventions. On the contrary, he **was** quite poor when he died. It **was** coronary thrombosis that killed him on 7th January, 1943. He **was** 86 years old. In 1994, a street sign identifying 'Nikola Tesla Corner' **was** installed near the site of his former New York City laboratory.

II. PAST SIMPLE OF THE VERB 'TO BE' AND REGULAR VERBS

Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple tense. The first sentence has been done for you.

Tesla **studied** (study) and **lived** (live) in Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic. During the 1870s, Tesla **moved** (move) to Budapest, where he **worked** (work) at the Central Telephone Exchange. At the age of 28, Tesla **decided** (decide) to leave Europe for America. He **arrived** (arrive) in the United States in 1884. Edison **hired** (hire) Tesla, and the two men **worked** (work) together. After a few months, they **ended** (end) their cooperation because of a conflict.

In 1885, Tesla **received** (receive) funding for the Tesla Electric Light Company. He **needed** (need) to develop improved arc lighting. However, his partners **kicked** (kick) Tesla out and **forced** (force) him to work as a manual worker in order to survive.

Throughout his career, Tesla **discovered** (discover), **created** (create) and **developed** (develop) ideas for a number of important inventions. He **was** (be) also a pioneer in the discovery of radar technology, X-ray technology, remote control and the rotating magnetic field. In 1895, Tesla **designed** (design) one of the first AC hydroelectric power plants in the United States, at Niagara Falls.

III. PAST SIMPLE OF REGULAR AND IRREGULAR VERBS (QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple tense. There is an example at the beginning.

I **asked** (ask) a few of my friends about their favourite trip. Here are their answers.

'Daniel, what **was** (be) your best trip like? Where **did** you **go** (go)?'

'Last year I **went** (go) to Lika with my family. We **travelled** (travel) by car. The trip **took** (take) 3 hours. We **stayed** (stay) in a cottage. I **wanted** (want) to sleep out in a tent, but mum **wasn't** (not be) happy with that idea.'

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Lika has beautiful mountains and animals. Unfortunately, I **didn't see** (not see) a bear. We **spent** (spend) three beautiful days there. We **walked** (walk) in the forest and **enjoyed** (enjoy) the fresh air. On the last day we **didn't leave** (not leave) our cottage. We **played** (play) board games because the weather **was** (be) cold and rainy. Still, we **had** (have) so much fun!

'Lucy, where **did** you **go** (go)? Who **were** you with (be)?'

My favourite trip **was** (be) to Šibenik 2 years ago. I **was** (be) in 4th grade and my school **organized** (organize) School in nature. All 28 students and 2 teachers **agreed** (agree) to go to Šibenik in June. My parents say it **wasn't** (not be) a cheap trip. I also **saved** (save) up some money for ice-cream!

'**Did** you **stay** (stay) in apartments?'

No, we **didn't stay** (not stay) in apartments. We **booked** (book) a hotel. I **shared** (share) a room with 3 other girls. The hotel **was** (be) really nice, but the food **wasn't** (not be) good. We mostly **ate** (eat) watermelon.'

'What **did** you **do** (do) in Šibenik?'

'During the day we **were** (be) on the beach, we **swam** (swim) and **played** (play) volleyball. We also **saw** (see) many cultural sites and **visited** (visit) Krka National Park! In the evening, we **went** (go) to Lina's room, **talked** (talk) and **had** (have) fun there. The scariest part was when I **lost** (lose) my phone! I **thought** (think) that somebody **stole** (steal) it! Luckily, one boy **found** (find) it on the beach and **brought** (bring) it to the hotel reception. I **had** (have) lots of funny photos on my phone. I hope he **didn't see** (not see) them all.'

IV. PAST SIMPLE NEGATIVE

Make the sentences true by changing them into negative form. There is an example at the beginning.

- Ivana Brlić-Mažuranić **wrote** Harry Potter books.
- Ivana Brlić-Mažuranić **didn't write** Harry Potter books.

- a) T-Rex **ate** plants.
T-Rex **didn't eat** plants.
- b) Brontosaurus **was** smaller than an elephant.
Brontosaurus **wasn't** smaller than an elephant.
- c) The Grinch **loved** Christmas.
The Grinch **didn't love** Christmas.
- d) Diana, Princess of Wales **died** in a plane crash.
Diana, Princess of Wales **didn't die** in a plane crash.
- e) Kobe Bryant **played** football.
Kobe Bryant **didn't play** football.
- f) Steve Jobs went to university in Zagreb.
Steve Jobs **didn't go** to university in Zagreb.
- g) The Beatles **were** a popular rock band from Germany.
The Beatles **weren't** a popular rock band from Germany.
- h) Albert Einstein **won** the Nobel Prize for literature.
Albert Einstein **didn't win** the Nobel prize for literature.

V. WH-QUESTIONS

Insert the question words into the questions in the past simple tense. There is an example at the beginning.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHOSE, WHY, HOW

- **How** did you feel when you met Ed Sheeran? I felt fantastic!

- a) How old were you when you learned to swim? I was 5.
- b) Where were you born? I was born in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- c) When did you visit Paris? I visited Paris last summer.
- d) Who was your kindergarten teacher? Mrs. Jennings.
- e) Whose homework did you copy? Sarah's.
- f) Why did Anna cry yesterday? Because somebody stole her umbrella.
- g) What did you eat at grandma's? Cabbage rolls and mashed potatoes.