Before you start

1 **Read about James Dean.**
   Look at the *highlighted* grammar examples.

   **STARS WHO DIED YOUNG:**
   **James Dean**

   James Dean died in a terrible car accident in 1955. He was only twenty-four when he died but he was already a big Hollywood star. Dean loved sports cars and he used to drive very fast – he didn’t like slow cars!

   On 30 September 1955, Dean left Los Angeles in his Porsche sports car. He stopped at Salinas and then continued towards Palm Springs. He was driving west on US Highway 466 when another car crashed into him at a junction. He wasn’t wearing a seat belt and when the crash happened, he died immediately.

2 **Now read the sentences. Choose the correct words in *italics*.**
   The *highlighted* grammar examples will help you.

   1 My grandfather *was / were* a student in the 1950s.
   2 He *loves / loved* his years at university. He studied physics.
   3 But he didn’t *like / liked* physics so he changed to chemistry.
   4 He finished university and then he *lived / living* in London.
   5 He *was working / worked* in London when he met his wife.
   6 He *wasn’t / didn’t* earning much money when he married my grandmother.
   7 When my father was born, they *moved / were moving* to the country.
   8 I *used / use* to visit him every summer when I was young.

3 **Check your answers below. Then go to the unit for more information and practice.**

   1 was 2 loved 3 like 4 lived 5 was working 6 wasn’t 7 moved 8 used

   ![Go online for a full diagnostic test](M06A_MGL_GB_FND_9043_U06A.indd) 107
Past simple of be

Deborah Kerr and Ingrid Bergman were film stars in the 1950s, but they weren’t American. Deborah Kerr was British and Ingrid Bergman was Swedish.

1 Form
We make the past tense of the verb be with was and were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITIVE</th>
<th>NEGATIVE</th>
<th>SHORT FORM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I/He/She/It</td>
<td>was</td>
<td>(wasn’t)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We/You/They</td>
<td>were</td>
<td>there.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are no short forms of was and were in positive sentences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATURAL ENGLISH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We use the short forms wasn’t and weren’t when we are speaking to someone and in informal writing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUESTIONS</th>
<th>SHORT ANSWERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Was I/he/she/it there?</td>
<td>Yes, I/he/she/it was. No, I/he/she/it wasn’t (wasn’t).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Were we/you/they there?</td>
<td>Yes, we/you/they were. No, we/you/they weren’t (were not).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where were you?
How much was it?
What was the name of the film?

Pronunciation ➤ 1.16, 1.17

2 Use
We use the past simple tense of be to talk about people and situations in the past.
We often use dates and times with was and were:
Deborah Kerr and Ingrid Bergman were film stars in the 1950s.
Was he in the beginners’ class last year?
It wasn’t very cold in December.

Compare was/were with is/are:
The weather was hot yesterday but it’s cooler today.
1920s films were in black and white but now most films are in colour.

Present simple of be ➤ Unit 35 To talk about actions in the past ➤ Unit 47
Practice

1 **GRAMMAR IN USE** Choose the correct words in italics in the text.

**Leslie Howard**

Leslie Howard (0) **is** / **was** a famous film star in the 1930s in Hollywood. But he (1) **wasn’t** / **didn’t** American – he (2) **were** / **was** British. In those days there (3) **not be** / **weren’t** a lot of British actors in Hollywood, most of the film stars (4) **was** / **were** American. Leslie Howard (5) **be** / **was** a very good actor and his films (6) **was** / **were** very successful, but he (7) **wasn’t** / **weren’t** happy in Hollywood and he went back to England. His most famous film (8) **did** / **was** ‘Gone With The Wind’ in 1939.

2 Write questions and short answers. **Listen and check.**

0 Thomas Edison / a famous inventor? (√)

**Was Thomas Edison a famous inventor? Yes, he was.**

1 Christopher Columbus / Spanish? (X)

2 Grace Kelly / a famous scientist? (X)

3 Gustave Eiffel / French engineer? (✓)

4 Michelangelo and Raphael / film directors? (X)

5 the Wright brothers / American? (✓)

6 John F Kennedy and Winston Churchill / actors (X)

3 **GRAMMAR IN USE** Complete the conversations with was, were, wasn’t or weren’t and the word(s) in brackets (). **Listen and check.**

1 A Where (0) **were you** last night? (you)

B (1) ................................................ at that new Chinese restaurant in Dover Street. (I)

A (2) ........................................ good? (it)

B No, (3) ......................................... terrible. (the food)

2 A (4) ................................................ a doctor? (your grandfather)

B No, (5) ......................................... He was a dentist. (he)

A (6) ............................................... successful? (he)

B Yes, (7) ......................................... very rich. (he)

3 A (8) ............................................... at home yesterday morning? (you)

B No, (9) ......................................... at home – we were at the supermarket. (we)

A (10) ................................................. with you? (the children)

B No, (11) ......................................... with our neighbours. (they)

Go online for more practice
45 Past simple (1)

Daniel Craig made his first James Bond film in 2006.

1 Form
We add -ed to most verbs to make the past simple:
watch → watched, finish → finished
Study these spellings:
die → died, live → lived, like → liked
stop → stopped, plan → planned, travel → travelled
carry → carried, study → studied
Spelling rules for regular verbs ➤ page 316

The pronunciation of the -ed ending depends on the sound that comes before it.

Pronunciation ➤ 1.18

Some verbs are irregular. They do not form the past simple with -ed:
buy → bought, do → did, have (got) → had (got),
go → went, hit → hit, leave → left,
make → made, put → put, say → said, take → took,
see → saw, tell → told, win → won
Irregular verbs ➤ page 314

2 Use
We use the past simple to talk about
• a single finished action in the past:
  I went to the dentist yesterday.
  I passed my exam last week.
• a repeated action in the past:
  I called your mobile five times yesterday.
We often use time expressions (e.g. yesterday, in 2002, last year) to say when something happened:

Daniel Craig made his first James Bond film in 2006.
I/You finished yesterday.
He/She/It finished yesterday.
We/You/They finished yesterday.

My father played football when he was young.
When she left college, Isabel had no money.
Practice  Use the spelling rules to help you complete these exercises. ➤ page 316

1  In each group, one past form is made in a different way from the others. Find the ones that are different.

0 talked asked  made  passed  3 died smiled phoned cried
1 walked played  went  visited  4 watched told took  had
2 stopped robbed planned listened  5 carried worried studied enjoyed

2  Write the past form of the verbs in the box below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>+ -ed</th>
<th>repeat the consonant and add -ed</th>
<th>+ -d</th>
<th>(-y) + -ied</th>
<th>irregular verbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>happened</td>
<td>robbed</td>
<td>phoned</td>
<td>hurried</td>
<td>told</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3  GRAMMAR IN USE  Choose past forms from Exercise 2 to complete the text.

DANIEL CRAIG – the new James Bond

Daniel Craig was born in Chester, England in 1968. When he was young, he (0) _______ lived _______ in the Wirral, near Liverpool. At school he (1) ________________ sport and he was in several teams. When he was a child, he (2) ________________ Star Trek on television and he says it is his ambition to appear in a Star Trek film. He (3) ________________ to London when he was sixteen and joined the National Youth Theatre. He then (4) ________________ acting at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He (5) ________________ his first film for the BBC in 1996 – Our Friends in the North. In 2006 he got the part of James Bond. Many people were surprised when this (6) ________________, because Craig has blond hair and all the other actors who have played Bond have dark hair.

4  Complete these sentences. Put the verbs in brackets () in the past tense. Then put the underlined words in the correct position. ➤ 3.07 Listen and check.

0 Jane (start) a new job month. last  Jane started a new job last month.  
1 I (play) football all the time I was young. when

2 Europeans (see) potatoes for the first time about five hundred years. ago

3 Somebody (rob) our local bank Wednesday. on

4 My father (have) an American motorbike he was young. when

5 April I (win) a bicycle in a magazine competition. in

6 Six months my brother (stop) smoking. ago

Go online for more practice
Past simple (2)

1 Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEUTRAL</th>
<th>YES/NO QUESTIONS</th>
<th>SHORT ANSWERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I/He/She/It/We/You/They did not (didn't) arrive.</td>
<td>Did I/he/she/it/we/you/they arrive?</td>
<td>Yes, I/he/she/it/we/you/they did. No, I/he/she/it/we/you/they didn't.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WH- QUESTIONS

What did you do on Saturday?
Where did you go for dinner?
How much did the meal cost?

✗ What you did on Saturday?
✓ What did you do on Saturday?

2 Use

We use the past simple

- when one thing happens after another in the past:
  - We arrived at the airport at eleven o'clock and took a taxi to the hotel.
  - Then we went to the café and had a drink, but we didn't eat anything.
- to talk about a situation that finished in the past:
  - I lived with my grandparents last summer.
  - Did men have long hair in the 1960s?
  - MP3 players didn't exist when I was a child.

Linking words for describing events in the past ➤ Unit 95.1

3 Words we use with the past simple

- We use then to say that one action happened after another one:
  - I finished school in 2006. Then I went to university.
  - 'And what did you do then?' (after university)
- We use from ... to to say when a past situation started and finished:
  - James Dean lived from 1931 to 1955.
  - I waited for you from eight o'clock to half past nine!
- We use for + ten minutes, two hours, a week, etc. to say how long a past situation lasted:
  - Daniela stayed with her cousins for two weeks last summer.

More about:
from ➤ Unit 21.3 for ➤ Unit 22.2
Practice

1 Use the words below to write questions and short answers.

0 die / President Kennedy / 1963? (✓) Did President Kennedy die in 1963? Yes, he did.

1 fly / Neil Armstrong / to Mars? (✗)

2 win / Tony Curtis / an Oscar? (✗)

3 invent / Alexander Graham Bell / the telephone? (✓)

4 paint / Michelangelo / the Mona Lisa? (✗)

5 write / Ian Fleming / the James Bond books? (✓)

6 exist / computers / in the 1990s? (✓)

2 Grammar in use There are five more mistakes in the conversation. Find and correct them.

Listen and check.

TOM Did you go to the cinema yesterday?

SILVIA Yes, we do.

TOM What did you see?

SILVIA We didn’t see anything.

TOM What do you mean?

SILVIA Well, there was a queue when we got to the cinema, so we didn’t wait.

TOM So, what did you do?

SILVIA We went to Video City and rented a DVD.

3 Grammar in use Look at the pictures. Then describe what Janice did yesterday evening. Use the words and phrases in the box with the verbs in the past simple.

Listen and check.

brush her teeth go home on the bus go to bed have a shower make a snack send some emails watch television from then

Janice went home on the bus at six o’clock. She

Go online for more practice and a progress test
### 1 Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITIVE</th>
<th>NEGATIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I/He/She/It was working.</td>
<td>I/He/She/It was not (wasn’t) working.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We/You/They were working.</td>
<td>We/You/They were not (weren’t) working.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Questions and Short Answers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Short Answers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Was I/he/she/it working?</td>
<td>Yes, I/he/she/it was. No, we/you/they weren’t.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Were we/you/they working?</td>
<td>Yes, we/you/they were. No, we/you/they weren’t.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We form the past continuous with was/were + the -ing form of the verb.

Spelling rules for -ing forms ➤ page 316

### 2 Use

We use the past continuous

- to describe an action at or around a time in the past:
  
  *At seven o’clock Marek was making the dinner and Isabella was putting the children to bed. I was watching TV at nine o’clock.*

- for temporary situations in the past:
  
  *Sally was living in Paris when she had her first baby.*

- to describe a scene in the past, especially when you are telling a story:
  
  *When we arrived at the beach, the sun was shining. They were cleaning the swimming pool when we got to the hotel.*

- to describe something you did until an event interrupted you and stopped you:
  
  *I was watching TV when the phone rang.*

- James Dean was driving a Porsche when he died.
  
  *Gerald was playing football when he hurt his arm.*

We don’t usually use verbs, such as like, see, hear, think, agree in the past continuous.

Verbs that don’t use the continuous form ➤ Unit 41.2

---

What were you doing at nine o’clock yesterday evening?
Practice  Use the spelling rules to help you complete these exercises. ➤ page 316

1  GRAMMAR IN USE  Complete the text. Use past continuous forms of the verbs in brackets () and short forms. ➤ 3.10 Listen and check.

A few years ago we (0) were living (live) in France at the time of the Cannes film festival. My wife (00) wasn’t working (not work) that weekend so we decided to drive to Cannes to see some of the new films. The sun (1) was shining (shine) when we arrived and the town looked beautiful. It was very busy – lots of people (2) were walking (walk) in the streets. But it wasn’t very hot that day so people (3) weren’t sunbathing (not sunbathe) on the beach. We got to our hotel and went to the restaurant. We had a big surprise – Juliette Binoche (4) was sitting (sit) at the back of the restaurant! But she (5) wasn’t having (not have) lunch, she (6) was talking (talk) to some other famous film stars. It was so exciting!

2  Complete the questions and short answers below. Use information from Exercise 1. ➤ 3.11 Listen and check.

0 Was the sun shining when they arrived? – Yes, it was.
1 Were lots of people in the streets? – Yes, they were.
2 Were people on the beach? – No, they weren’t.
3 Who was at the back of the restaurant? – Juliette Binoche
4 Did she have lunch? – No, she wasn’t.

3  GRAMMAR IN USE  Last night there was a robbery at the Denmore Hotel. The police want to know what everybody was doing at five past eight. Look at the photos from the hotel cameras. Read all the questions before you answer them.

- Mr Denby
- Steve Burton
- Mr and Mrs Grant
- Maria
- Alfredo and Alex
- Marco

0 Was Mr Denby carrying some suitcases?  No, he wasn’t. He was swimming in the pool.
1 Was Steve Burton eating in the restaurant?  ...........................................................................
2 Were Mr and Mrs Grant paying the bill?  ............................................................................
3 Was Maria swimming in the pool?  ......................................................................................
4 Were Alfredo and Alex using the Internet?  ..........................................................................
5 Was Marco cooking in the kitchen?  ....................................................................................

Go online for more practice
Past simple or past continuous?

1 Use

**PAST SIMPLE**
- to describe one or more finished actions in the past:
  - We arrived at the hotel at three o'clock and went to our room.
- I called you about four times yesterday afternoon.

**PAST CONTINUOUS**
- to describe an unfinished action at and around a time in the past:
  - When we arrived at the hotel, the maid was cleaning our room. (The cleaning was not finished when we arrived.)
  - I couldn’t answer the phone because I was speaking to some clients.

- when one action happened after another:
  - When Isabel came, we watched a DVD.
    (= Isabel came and then we watched a DVD.)

- to describe something you were doing at the time when another thing happened:
  - When Isabel came, we were watching a DVD.
    (= We were watching a DVD at the time Isabel came.)

2 *when* and *while*

- We can use either *when* or *while* before the past continuous:
  - The bridge collapsed *when/while* the truck was crossing it.
  - The post came *when/while* I was having my breakfast.

- We don’t use *while* before the past simple, but we can use *when*:
  - ✗ While the post came I was having my breakfast.
  - ✓ When the post came I was having my breakfast.
Practice

1 Choose the correct words in italics. Listen and check.

0 After I brushed my teeth I [went / was going] to bed.
1 I [went / was going] to the dentist five times last year.
2 My computer [broke down / was breaking down] yesterday.
3 Hilary fell on the ice last winter and [broke / was breaking] her arm.
4 We were relaxing in the garden [when / while] we suddenly heard a loud noise.
5 Karl didn’t hear the doorbell because he [listened / was listening] to his iPod.
6 After I left university, I worked in a bank and then I [moved / was moving] to an insurance company.
7 My cousin couldn’t visit us in August because she [did / was doing] a summer course.
8 I was having a shower [when / while] the phone rang.

2 Match the sentences 1 and 2 with A and B.

0 1 When my father arrived, we looked at his photos. A We started looking at the photos before my father arrived.
2 When my father arrived, we were looking at his photos. B My father brought the photos with him.
1 1 My aunt worked for Mr O’Reilly. A She was his assistant.
2 My aunt was working for Mr O’Reilly when she heard the news. B She was speaking to a client on the phone.
2 1 I was having a party when she told me the news. A I had a party after she told me the news.
2 When she told me the news I had a party. B The party started before she told me the news.
3 1 Paul travelled a lot in his last job. A He was on a plane to Rio.
2 Paul was travelling when the accident happened. B He was an international salesman.

3 Grammar in use Complete the text. Use the correct form of the verbs in brackets ( ).

The sinking of the TITANIC

ON THE NIGHT of 14 April 1912 the cruise ship Titanic (0) ......................... was in the middle of its first journey between England and New York.
It (1) ......................... travelled across the north Atlantic, south of Greenland. As usual, a sailor (2) ......................... watched the sea in front of the ship; he (3) ......................... looked for icebergs.
But it was dark and there was no moon, so he couldn’t see anything. Suddenly, at exactly 11.40, the ship (4) ......................... hit a huge iceberg. The ship quickly began to sink. At the
time of the accident many of the passengers (5) ......................... slept. The sailors (6) ......................... told everybody to leave the ship, but there (7) ......................... not be enough boats for all the people. In the end more than 1,500 people (8) ......................... died.

Go online for more practice
49 used to

Hollywood actor Russell Crowe used to work in a restaurant in Sydney.

1 Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITIVE</th>
<th>NEGATIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I/He/She/It/We/You/They used to work</td>
<td>did not (didn’t) use to work in a shop.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

QUESTIONS SHORT ANSWERS

Did I/he/she/it/we/you/they use to work here? Yes, (he) did. No, (we) didn’t.

There is no present form of used to:

✗ I use to go to work by bus.
✓ I usually go to work by bus.

2 Use

We use used to

• for actions that happened regularly in the past but do not happen now:
  People used to write a lot of letters. (but now they send emails)

• to say how often we did things in the past (with always, once a week, every year, etc.):
  I always used to swim before breakfast.
  We used to go to the beach every summer.

• for past situations that are different now:
  Russell Crowe used to be a waiter. (but now he is an actor)
  My parents didn’t use to live in the city. (but now they live in the city)
  When I was a child I used to have a pet rabbit.
  Where did you use to go on holiday when you were young?

We pronounce the s in used to as /s/ not /z/. We do not pronounce the final d: /juːstə/.

3 Past simple or used to?

We use the past simple, NOT used to

• for single actions in the past:
  ✗ I used to have a driving lesson last week.
  ✓ I had a driving lesson last week. (a single action = past simple)

• for repeated actions in the past with a number:
  ✗ I used to have a driving lesson twice last week.
  ✓ I had a driving lesson twice last week. (a repeated action = past simple)

• to talk about a period of time with for:
  ✗ He used to be in the army for two years.
  ✓ He was in the army for two years.
Practice

1 Read the information. Then complete the answers below.

0 How are films different? Films used to be in black and white but now they are in colour.

1 What about cameras? Cameras big and heavy but small and light.

2 What about phones? Phones attached to wires but mobile.

3 How is transport different? People ride horses but drive cars.

4 Do people work in the same places as in the past?
   No, most people work in factories and offices.

5 What about schools? Children finish school at 12 but finish school at 16.

6 Do people live in the same places as in the past?
   No, most people live in towns.

7 What about entertainment? People go to the cinema but watch TV and DVDs.

2 Find the mistakes in the sentences and correct them. Now listen and check.

0 Were people use to smoke inside cinemas in the 1950s?
   Films didn’t used to have sound but now they do.

1 Did use to be cameras very expensive?
   Cameras used to be big and heavy but now they are small and light.

2 Harrison Ford used to being a carpenter before he became a film star.
   Harrison Ford used to be a carpenter before he became a film star.

3 Glenda Jackson use to be a film actress but now she is a politician.
   Glenda Jackson used to be a film actress but now she is a politician.

4 Did Bruce Willis used to have a lot of hair?
   Bruce Willis used to have a lot of hair.

5 It wasn’t use to be expensive to go to the cinema but now it is.

3 Grammar in use Choose the correct words in italics in the text. Listen and check.

The politician who used to be a film star

Arnold Schwarzenegger's life is very different today. He (0) use / used to be an actor but now he is a politician. These days he lives in California but he (1) didn't live / didn't use to live there, he used to (2) live / living in Austria. He (3) had / use to have an Austrian passport for many years but he (4) got / used to get an American passport in 1983 when he (5) became / used to become a US citizen.

When he was young he (6) wasn't use to be / didn't use to be interested in politics – his main interest was exercise and he (7) used to spend / used spend hours in the gym every day, building his muscles. He was very successful and he (8) won / used to win the Mr Universe competition five times.