ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Verb To BE (Was, Were) MCQ Grammar Quiz – Test – Exercise

English Grammar Tests · 16 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/verb-to-be-was-were-mcq-grammar-quiz-test-exercise/

1	**A**	2	**B**	3	**C**	4	**A**	5	**C**	6	**B**	7	**B**	8	**A**	9	**C**	10	**C**
11	**A**	12	**B**	13	**C**	14	**B**	15	**A**	16	**C**								

Explanations

1. There _____ more than forty people at the meeting.
✔ **A) were**
People is plural, so we use **were**: **There were forty people.** Not **was**, because **was** goes with one thing.

2. (A) How old _____ you last year?

(B) I _____ twenty years old.
✔ **B) were / was**
We say **you were** and **I was**. So: **How old were you?** and **I was twenty.**

3. (A) Where _____ Tom last night?

(B) He _____ at home.
✔ **C) was / was**
Tom is one person (**he**), so we use **was** both times: **Where was Tom?** and **He was at home.**

4. The bus was late, so Alex and Sam _____ also late for class this morning.
✔ **A) were**
Alex and Sam means two people (**they**), so we use **were**. The bus was late, so they **were** late too, not **weren't**.

5. (A) Were you sick last week?

(B) No, I _____.
✔ **C) wasn’t**
In the answer we talk about **I**, so we use **was**: **No, I wasn't.** Not **weren't**, because we never say **I weren't**.

6. (A) _____ Maria here an hour ago?

(B) Yes, she was.
✔ **B) Was**
Maria is one person (**she**), so the question starts with **Was**: **Was Maria here?** The answer **she was** also shows this.

7. I’m a teacher now, but I _____ a student in 2015.
✔ **B) was**
In 2015 is in the past, and with **I** we use **was**: **I was a student in 2015.** Not **am**, because that is now.

8. We had a great time at the party. It _____ lots of fun.
✔ **A) was**
The party is in the past (**We had**), and **it** takes **was**: **It was lots of fun.** Not **is**, because the party is over.

9. My friend and I _____ at the library yesterday afternoon.
✔ **C) were**
My friend and I means two people (**we**), so we use **were**: **We were at the library.**

10. Where did you go on the weekend? Why _____ you at home?
✔ **C) weren’t**
With **you** we use **were** or **weren't**. The person went somewhere, so they were not at home: **Why weren't you at home?**

11. Cathy is a police officer now, but she _____ a pilot last year.
✔ **A) was**
Last year is in the past, and with **she** we use **was**: **She was a pilot last year.** Not **is**, because she is a police officer now.

12. (A) Where _____ you born?

(B) I _____ born in Peru.
✔ **B) were / was**
We say **Where were you born?** and **I was born in Peru.** Use **were** with **you** and **was** with **I**.

13. That movie _____ really funny! I laughed all night!
✔ **C) was**
That movie is one thing, so we use **was**. The speaker laughed a lot, so the movie **was** funny, not **wasn't**.

14. I thought the cookies _____ delicious, so I ate six of them!
✔ **B) were**
Cookies is plural, so we use **were**. The speaker ate six, so they **were** delicious, not **weren't**.

15. There _____ nothing I could do, so I asked for help.
✔ **A) was**
Nothing is singular, so we use **There was nothing**. Not **wasn't**, because **nothing** is already negative, so **wasn't nothing** is wrong.

16. Our science teacher said that some dinosaurs _____ huge.
✔ **C) were**
Dinosaurs is plural, and they lived long ago, so we use **were**: **Some dinosaurs were huge.** Not **are**, because dinosaurs don't live today.