

### Activity Type

Reading, listening, and speaking activity, group work

### Language Focus

Past simple - verb to be  
was/were

### Aim

To review the verb to be in the past simple by playing a board game where you give true or false answers to questions.

### Preparation

Make one copy of the game board and cards for each group of three or four and cut the cards out as indicated. Enlarge the game board to A3 if possible. Also, provide a dice and counters for each group.

### Level

Pre-intermediate

### Time

30 minutes

### Introduction

In this fun was/were teaching activity, students review the verb to be in the past simple by playing a board game where they give true or false answers to questions.

### Procedure

Divide the students into groups of three or four.

Give each group a copy of the game board, a set of true or false cards, a dice and counters.

Ask the students to shuffle the cards and place them face down in a pile next to the game board. Nominate one student in each group to keep score.

The players place their counters on the start square. The players then take it in turns to roll the dice and move their counter along the board.

When a player lands on a square, they pick up a true or false card from the pile and look at it, without showing anyone.

The player then answers the question on the square using 'was' or 'were' by giving either true or false information as indicated on the card.

When the player has answered the question, the other students ask follow-up questions to determine if the player is lying or telling the truth.

After a few questions have been answered, the other students guess whether the player's answer is true or false.

The player then reveals the answer. The students who guessed correctly each score one point.

The next player then rolls the dice and so on.

When a player reaches the finish, the game ends and the points are added up. The student with the most points wins the game.

This game can also be played without the true or false element. In this version, when a player lands on a square, they answer the question and talk about their answer for one minute without stopping. If a player can't think of anything to say, makes a grammar mistake or stops talking before the time is up, they move back to their previous square or miss a turn. The first student to reach the finish wins the game.

Were you sick last month?	What was your first computer like?	Where were you last night?	Were your parents strict when you were young?	Who was your favourite teacher and why?	<b>Finish</b>
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Where were you last New Year's Eve?	<b>False</b>				
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What was your country like when you were a child?	What was the name of your first pet?	What bands were popular when you were young?	What was the best meal you ate recently?	Were you late to class last week?	What was your favourite toy when you were a child?
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					Who was your first crush?
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How were you feeling yesterday?	What was your favourite game as a child?	Where were you last Saturday afternoon?	When was the last public holiday?	How old were you five years ago?	Were you asleep at eleven o'clock last night?
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When were you born?					
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What was your favourite TV show last year?	Were you busy yesterday?	What was your favourite sport when you were young?	Who was absent from the last class?	What was the weather like yesterday?	How was your weekend?
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**True**

					How old were you when you learned to ride a bicycle?
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<b>Start</b>	Were you a naughty child?	Who were you with last Sunday?	What was your last holiday like?	Where were you born?	Who was your best friend in elementary school?
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Give a  
TRUE Answer

Give a  
FALSE Answer

Give a  
TRUE Answer

Give a  
FALSE Answer

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