

ENGLISH

Chapter 5 Session A

2nd
SECONDARY

THEN AND NOW



 **SACO OLIVEROS**

HELICOMOTIVATION



There **was** no popcorn. (+ singular noun)

There **were** two calendars. (+ plural noun)

(there) was/were

1 Read the examples and complete the rules.

The cocoa bean **was** important to the Aztecs.

Schools **weren't** only for rich children.

Was the water good for drinking? No, it **wasn't**.

The past of *be* is *I/he/she/it* 1 **was** and
you/we/they 2 **were**.

To make the negative, add 3 **not** to the verb.

To make a question, change the order of the
4 **subject** and the verb.

2 Complete the sentences with the simple past form of *be*.

Q: 1 Were you interested in history when you
2 were younger?

A: No, I 3 wasn't . I thought it 4 was boring!

Q: 5 Was there a sports center in your town
20 years ago?

A: Yes, there 6 was , but there 7 weren't
any skate parks.

3 Read the examples and circle the correct option.

Both boys and girls **could** go to school.

They **couldn't** grow vegetables on water.

Could they write on paper? Yes, they **could**.

- 1 We use *could* and *couldn't* to talk about **present/past** ability and possibility.
- 2 We **always/never** use *did* and *didn't* in negative sentences and questions.
- 3 After *could* and *couldn't*, we use the infinitive/**base form**.

4 Complete the sentences with *could* or *couldn't* and the ideas in the box.

become rich and famous buy meat
do exercise vote watch chariot races

- 1 *could do exercise.*
- 2 *couldn't vote.*
- 3 *could watch chariot races.*
- 4 *could become rich and famous.*
- 5 *couldn't buy meat.*

Past time expressions

5 Order the past time expressions from most recent to oldest.

last night

yesterday

a week ago


in June

three years ago

in 2015

when I was five

in the 19th century

7  **11** Complete the text with the correct past form of *be*, *could* or *couldn't*. Listen and check.



SCHOOL LIFE IN ANCIENT EGYPT



In some ways, schools in Ancient Egypt
1 were very similar to schools today. There
2 were tables and chairs in the classrooms,
and there 3 was a type of paper called
'papyrus', so students 4 could write. They
wrote using hieroglyphic symbols. There



wrote using hieroglyphic symbols. There
5 were about 700 symbols in the
Egyptian alphabet!

But most teenagers didn't go to school because
education 6 wasn't free. Only the sons
of rich families 7 could study. Girls
usually helped at home, and most of them
8 couldn't read or write.



8 Answer the question to solve the Brain teaser.

BRAIN **TEASER**

									
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
									
K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
									
U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D



What is the word in Egyptian hieroglyphics?



1 **Reinforcement** Rewrite the sentences with *(there) was/wasn't* or *could*.

1 There was a Roman city near here. (-)

There wasn't a Roman city near here.

2 The Mayan museum was in the city center. (-)

The Mayan museum wasn't in the city center.

3 The Greeks were good at engineering. (?)

Were the Greeks good at engineering?



4 The Egyptians weren't the inventors of clocks. (+)

The Egyptians were the inventors of clocks.

5 Carthage wasn't in Egypt. (? where)

Where was Carthage?

6 We could see the exhibit about the Romans. (-)

We couldn't see the exhibit about the Romans.

7 The Aztecs couldn't speak Spanish. (?)

Could the Aztecs speak Spanish?

2

Reinforcement

Complete the sentences with the missing words.

- 1 They were here ten minutes ago.
- 2 She was born in 2009.
- 3 We couldn't go to the party last night.
- 4 I wasn't in class the day before yesterday.
- 5 I could swim when I was four years old.

3

Challenge

Look at Casper's notes and complete the sentences about the trip.

choose what to visit ✓

worksheet to complete ✓

go around with friends ✓

leave building ✗

exhibit about Aztecs ✗

exhibit about Romans ground floor ✓

- 1 We could choose what to see.
- 2 There was a worksheet to complete during the visit.
- 3 We could go around with our friends.
couldn't
- 4 We leave the building.
- 5 There weren't any exhibits about the Aztecs.
- 6 The exhibit about the Romans was on the ground floor.

4 **Challenge** Today is Monday, November 14, 2022. Use past time expressions to describe the dates.

- 1 Sunday, November 13, 2022 *Yesterday*
- 2 Saturday, November 12, 2022 *The day before yesterday*
- 3 Monday, November 7– Friday, November 11, 2022 *Last week*
- 4 2021 *Last year*
- 5 October 17–21, 2022 *Four weeks ago*
- 6 Monday, November 7, 2022 *A week ago*