

9B Before they were stars...



1 GRAMMAR simple past: *be*

a Look at the photos of some famous people. Who...

- is a singer?
- makes movies?
- is an actor?
- has a TV show?

b Can you guess their old jobs? Write the names.

- _____ was an office worker.
- _____ was a waiter and a DJ.
- _____ 's first job was at a newspaper.
- _____ was a dancer on a TV show.
- _____ was a clown.
- _____ was a construction worker in Australia.
- _____ and _____ were waitresses.
- _____ and _____ were salespeople.

c 3 50))) Listen and check.

d Complete the chart.

Present	Past
Hugh Jackman is an actor.	He _____ a clown.
They are famous.	They _____ waitresses.

e ► p.108 Grammar Bank 9B. Learn more about simple past of *be* and practice it.

2 PRONUNCIATION /ər/ and was / were

a 3 52))) Listen and repeat the words and sound.



bird

first were her work nurse

b 3 53))) Listen and repeat the sounds and sentences. Copy the rhythm.



bird

Were they **famous**?
Yes, they **were**.
No, they **weren't**. They **weren't** famous.



up

Was he a **waiter**?
Yes, he **was**.
No, he **wasn't**. He **wasn't** a **waiter**.



weren't and wasn't

We usually say *weren't* as one syllable: /wɜrnt/
Wasn't has two syllables: /wʌznt/

c 3 54))) Listen and say the sentences in the past.

))) She's a waitress. (She was a waitress.

PRONUNCIATION /ər/ and was / were

Pronunciation notes

/ər/ er, ir, and ur are usually pronounced /ər/, e.g. verb, first, nurse.