

# There is, There are, There was, There were

**There is** – used with **countable** nouns in singular or **uncountable** nouns in the **present**.

**There is** some coffee in the fridge.

**There is** a big sunflower in the garden.

**There are** – used with **countable** nouns in the plural in the present.

**There are** three Japanese girls in my classroom.

**There are** many flowers in the garden.

**There was** – used in the same way as “there is” in the past.

**There was** a wreck on the interstate yesterday.

**There was** some sugar here one hour ago. Where is it?

**There were** – used in the same way as “there are” in the past.

**There were** several mistakes in my composition. That's why my grade was so poor, Mom.

1

Complete with “there is”, “there are”:

- \_\_\_\_\_ a hole in Susan's coat.
- \_\_\_\_\_ some keys on the table. Are they yours?
- Yvonne is here to talk to you. \_\_\_\_\_ some things she wants to ask you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ some milk in the fridge if you want to drink something, Carl.
- \_\_\_\_\_ two Australian kids living in the neighborhood.
- \_\_\_\_\_ some ants in the garden, we need to have it sprayed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ a bug on your shirt.



2

Complete with “there was”, “there were”:

- I'm late because \_\_\_\_\_ an accident on the interstate and the traffic was stuck.
- I asked you to lend me your pen because I didn't notice \_\_\_\_\_ some blue pens on the table.
- Sam is worried about the storm because \_\_\_\_\_ a tornado last year when his house was destroyed.
- We didn't have class today because of the cold weather. \_\_\_\_\_ only three students in class.
- The party was great! \_\_\_\_\_ live music and some great singers.
- Fred got such a poor grade because \_\_\_\_\_ too many mistakes in his composition.

Complete with the affirmative, interrogative or negative form of “there was”, “there were”:

- The show was cancelled because \_\_\_\_\_ any hotel rooms available for the band.
- \_\_\_\_\_ diet drinks at the prom last Saturday?
- \_\_\_\_\_ a reason for your silly decision? Nobody understood it.
- Jeff is complaining because \_\_\_\_\_ any seats available.
- Cindy changed her mind about going to Yosemite last weekend because \_\_\_\_\_ only two places available and she wanted to take her cousins.
- \_\_\_\_\_ any calls for me while I was away, Ms Anderson?



3

Mark the correct option:

- \_\_\_\_\_ some doughnuts for you.  
a) there was                      b) there are
- \_\_\_\_\_ a new disco downtown. What do you think of going there next Saturday?  
a) there weren't                      b) there is
- The plant died because \_\_\_\_\_ any water in the vase. Did you forget to water it?  
a) was there                      b) there wasn't
- The police had to release the convict because \_\_\_\_\_ any evidences proving he was the murderer.  
a) there were                      b) there weren't
- We need to go to the supermarket because \_\_\_\_\_ any meat left.  
a) there were                      b) there isn't
- I think I'll flunk because the test is tomorrow and \_\_\_\_\_ enough time to study anymore.  
a) there isn't                      b) there are
- \_\_\_\_\_ any toilet paper left?  
a) is there                      b) there is
- I can't forgive you, Tom. \_\_\_\_\_ no reason to justify what you did.  
a) there weren't                      b) there is
- I noticed Charlie returned from his trip because when I got home \_\_\_\_\_ a suitcase on the hallway.  
a) there was                      b) there aren't
- Organizing my wardrobe yesterday was a hard task because \_\_\_\_\_ many clothes I wanted to keep but they didn't fit me anymore.  
a) there are                      b) there were
- \_\_\_\_\_ nothing in this box.  
a) there is                      b) there isn't

5

4

Complete with “there is”, “there are”, “there was”, “there were”, in the affirmative, negative and interrogative form:

- I don't want to frighten you, but \_\_\_\_\_ any tickets available. The show is sold out.
- Don't believe in what Ernest told you. \_\_\_\_\_ any haunted houses in this neighborhood.
- Please, sir. \_\_\_\_\_ a pharmacy near hear?
- \_\_\_\_\_ many people at the stadium for the game yesterday?
- \_\_\_\_\_ tons of people for the play. The theater was crowded.
- \_\_\_\_\_ a person here to talk to you, Paul. Can you come here now?
- Alicia is upset because \_\_\_\_\_ any money left for the vacation trip she planned.
- \_\_\_\_\_ a man here to talk to you. I think he was tired of waiting and left.



