

ENGLISH GRAMMAR PRACTICE

Unit 24 — There was / There were & Past/Present Forms of There (Indian Context)

24.1 Look at the classroom last week and now. Write sentences with *There was...* or *There were...* + the words in the list.

an armchair | a carpet | some flowers | a sofa
some books | a clock | three charts | a small table

1. *There was a clock* on the wall near the window.
2. _____ on the floor.
3. _____ on the wall near the door.
4. _____ in the middle of the room.
5. _____ on the teacher's table.
6. _____ on the wooden shelves.
7. _____ in the corner near the door.
8. _____ opposite the blackboard.

24.2 Put in *there was* / *there wasn't* / *was there* / *there were* / *there weren't* / *were there*.

1. I was hungry after school, but **there wasn't** anything to eat at home.
2. **Were there** any letters for me yesterday?
3. _____ an India-Pakistan cricket match on TV last night. Did you watch it?
4. 'We stayed at a very nice hotel.' 'Did you? _____ a swimming pool?'
5. 'Did you buy any sweets?' 'No, _____ any open shops in the market.'
6. The wallet was empty. _____ any cash in it.
7. ' _____ many people at the staff meeting?' 'No, very few.'
8. We didn't visit Qutub Minar. _____ enough time.
9. I'm sorry I'm late. _____ heavy traffic on the Ring Road.
10. Twenty years ago _____ many street trees here. Now there are a lot.

24.3 Put in *there + is* / *are* / *was* / *were* / *has been* / *have been* / *will be*.

1. **There was** a good movie on TV yesterday evening.
2. _____ 24 hours in a single day.
3. _____ a cultural party at the club last Friday, but I didn't go.
4. 'Where can I buy a newspaper?' ' _____ a stationery shop at the end of the lane.'
5. 'Why are those policemen outside the bank?' ' _____ a robbery.'
6. When we arrived at the cinema, _____ a long queue for tickets.
7. When you arrive tomorrow, _____ someone at the railway station to receive you.
8. Ten years ago _____ 500 students in the school. Now _____ more than a thousand.
9. Last week I went back to my hometown. It's very different now. _____ a lot of changes.
10. I think everything will be OK. I don't think _____ any problems.