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Basics. There Was, There Were, and There Will Be

Easy | A1 | Elementary | Beginners | Countable and uncountable | Future tense | Modal verb | Negation | Past tense | Sentence | Subject | Verb | Verb tense | Simple tense

1. Review the time-traveler's journal entries comparing the past and the future. Select ALL the sentences that are grammatically correct.

Select all that apply.

A) In 1920, there were no flying cars.
B) In 2120, there will be robots in every home.
C) In 1920, there was no smartphones.
D) In 2120, there were a colony on Mars.

2. Help Detective Crumbs complete his report about the great cookie heist by dragging the correct phrases to the blanks.

According to the witness, _____ three chocolate cookies on the plate yesterday.
Next to the empty plate, _____ a single, suspicious paw print.
However, the baker promised that _____ a fresh batch ready tomorrow morning!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1
A) there were
B) there was
C) there will be

Blank 2
A) there was
B) there were
C) there will be

Blank 3
A) there will be
B) there was
C) there were

3. Read Madame Zara's party predictions. Select ALL the grammatically correct prophecies!

Select all that apply.

A) There will be a lot of dancing in the living room.
B) There will be three angry neighbors knocking on the door.
C) There will are free pizzas at midnight.
D) There is will be a surprise guest.

4. Complete the time traveler's review of their trips to the past and future by dragging the correct phrases into the blanks.

In the year 1890, _____ no electricity in that spooky old hotel.
However, _____ dozens of candles lighting up the grand dining room.
I am excited for my next trip to 2050, where I hope _____ flying cars!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1
A) there was
B) there were
C) there will be

Blank 2
A) there were
B) there was
C) there will be

Blank 3

- **A)** there will be
- **B)** there was
- **C)** there were

5. Help the detective review her notes after a midnight snack heist. Select ALL the sentences that correctly describe the crime scene.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** There were crumbs all over the counter.
- **B)** There was a half-eaten sandwich on the floor.
- **C)** There was three empty milk cartons.
- **D)** There were a huge mess near the fridge.

6. Fill in the blanks in the astronaut's highly official (and slightly hungry) Mars mission logbook.

During our first scan yesterday, _____ zero signs of alien life.

However, _____ a strange glowing rock near the crater that looked exactly like a potato.

By the year 2050, I am absolutely certain _____ a permanent pizza restaurant on this planet.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** there was
- **B)** there were
- **C)** there will be

Blank 2

- **A)** there was
- **B)** there were
- **C)** there will be

Blank 3

- **A)** there was
- **B)** there were
- **C)** there will be

7. Help the detective finish her report by choosing the correct phrase.

When I arrived at the bakery, ___ only crumbs left on the counter.

Select one.

- **A)** there was
- **B)** there were
- **C)** there is
- **D)** there will be

8. Help the mayor write the town's monthly newsletter about the old park and the exciting new renovations! Select the correct option for each blank.

Fifty years ago, _____ a giant, terrifying dinosaur statue in the park.

Before the recent renovation, _____ too many potholes on Main Street for anyone to drive safely.

But don't worry! Next summer, _____ three new rollercoasters and a cotton candy machine!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** there were
- **B)** there was
- **C)** there will be

Blank 2

- **A)** there was
- **B)** there were
- **C)** there will be

Blank 3

- **A)** there was
- **B)** there were
- **C)** there will be

9. Help the party planner compare last year's disastrous event with next week's grand celebration by dragging the correct phrases to the blanks.

At last year's party, _____ a terrible storm that ruined the decorations.
Worse still, _____ only five people who actually showed up!
But next Friday, _____ a massive fireworks display to amaze everyone.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** there was
- **B)** there were
- **C)** there will be

Blank 2

- **A)** there were
- **B)** there was
- **C)** there will be

Blank 3

- **A)** there will be
- **B)** there was
- **C)** there were

10. Complete the stressed party planner's text messages to her assistant about last night's disaster and tomorrow's big event. Choose the best phrase for each gap.

At the party last night, _____ only one slice of pizza left for me!

I also can't believe _____ five angry clowns hiding in the bushes yesterday!

Tomorrow, I promise _____ enough cupcakes and security guards for everyone.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** there was
- **B)** there were
- **C)** there will be

Blank 2

- **A)** there were
- **B)** there was
- **C)** there will be

Blank 3

- **A)** there was
- **B)** there were
- **C)** there will be

11. Help the camper finish his spooky campfire story by selecting the correct words.

I woke up in the middle of the night because ___ a strange scratching sound outside my tent.

Select one.

- **A)** there was
- **B)** there were
- **C)** there will be
- **D)** there are

12. Complete the event planner's excited text message with the right phrase.

Get ready for Friday! ___ a giant chocolate fountain at the party!

Select one.

- **A)** There was
- **B)** There were
- **C)** There will be
- **D)** There are