

Y4 Standard English Verbs

KS2 Y4 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

was or were? 'The children ___ excited.'

Step 1 · Swap the subject for a pronoun

The children = they

Step 2 · they goes with were

They were excited.

Answer: The children were excited.

Check: I was, he/she/it was. You were, we were, they were.

2. Now try one with the steps

Rewrite in Standard English: 'I done the washing up.'

Step 1 · done needs a helper (have)

Step 2 · ...or use the simple past

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. was or were? 'I ___ tired.'

2. was or were? 'We ___ in the hall.'

3. was or were? 'You ___ right!'

4. did or done? 'Ruby ___ a cartwheel.'

5. saw or seen? 'We have ____ the sea.'

6. came or come? 'Grandma ____ for tea on Sunday.'

7. don't or doesn't? 'My brother ____ like spiders.'

8. Rewrite in Standard English: 'They was singing.'

9. Rewrite in Standard English: 'I seen it on the news.'

10. Rewrite in Standard English: 'She ain't here.'

11. Rewrite in Standard English: 'We never done nothing wrong.'

12. Rewrite in Standard English: 'He give me a sweet yesterday.'

13. Correct the two verbs: 'The team was brilliant and we done well.'

14. Write a sentence for a school report using 'were' and 'did'.

4. Before you hand it in

we was, they was, you was

we were, they were, you were

I done it, I seen it

I did it / I have done it. I saw it / I have seen it.

I didn't do nothing.

I didn't do anything. / I did nothing.

Thinking non-standard English is 'wrong' everywhere.

Use Standard English for formal writing and speaking; local forms are fine in chat and in dialogue.