

SCENE 45 • GRAMMAR

Buvo smagu

Telling what happened

7 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

The festival

Lithuanian

Read & listen online 

A story or a postcard about an event mixes two kinds of sentence: what it was like, **Buvo smagu**. It was fun. And what happened, **Užgeso šviesos**. The lights went out. Both are in the past tense.

BŪTI IN THREE TENSES

Present tense	Past tense	Future tense	Meaning
yra	buvo	bus	it is, there is • it was • it will be
nėra	nebuvo	nebus	it isn't, there isn't • it wasn't • it won't be
esu	buvau	būsiu	I am • I was • I'll be
esame	buvome	būsime	we are • we were • we'll be

The present tense is for now, the past tense for then, the future tense for later. After **nėra**, **nebuvo** and **nebus** the thing goes into the genitive: **Pyrago nebuvo**. The cake was gone. **Sniego nebus**. There won't be any snow.

WHAT IT WAS LIKE

Example	Meaning
Buvo smagu.	It was fun.
Buvo tamsu.	It was dark.
Buvo šalta, paskui šilta.	It was cold, then warm.
Buvo keista.	It was strange.
Buvo daug žmonių.	There were lots of people.

With no person, the adjective has its own ending, like the weather words: **-us** gives **-u**, so **tamsus** → **tamsu**, **gražus** → **gražu**; **-as** gives **-a**, so **šaltas** → **šalta**, **keistas** → **keista**.

WHAT HAPPENED: WE, YOU AND THEY

Infinitive	mes	jūs	jie · jos	Meaning
-o past: -ome · -ote · -o				
šokti	šokome	šokote	šoko	to dance
dainuoti	dainavome	dainavote	dainavo	to sing
-ė past: -ėme · -ėte · -ė				
valgyti	valgėme	valgėte	valgė	to eat

Verbs in **-uoti** have their past tense in **-avo**: **dainuoti** → **dainavo**, sang · **fotografuoti** → **fotografavo**, took photos.

A postcard starts with **Mielas**, dear, to a man, or **Mieloji** to a woman, and often ends with a plan in the future tense: **Rytoj nupirksiu pašto ženklą**. Tomorrow I'll buy a stamp. Sign it **Tavo** and your name.

Šeštadienį čia buvo miesto šventė.

On Saturday there was the town festival here.

Užgeso šviesos, katinas pavogė kandiklį, o mano kolega šoko.

The lights went out, the cat stole a mouthpiece, and my colleague danced.

Aš dirbau prie kavinės prekystalio. Buvo labai smagu.

I worked at the café stall. It was great fun.

Aš mačiau. Jis labai gražiai šoko.

I saw it. He danced very nicely.

Mes valgėme, šokome ir dainavome.

We ate, danced and sang.

GRAMMAR

G1) FIND THE WORDS

Underline the past forms of būti: buvo, buvau, nebuvo.

- 1 Šeštadienį čia buvo mieste šventė.

Meaning: On Saturday there was the town festival here.

- 2 Aš buvau alkanas.

Meaning: I was hungry.

- 3 Kai šviesos užsidegė, mano pyrago nebuvo.

Meaning: When the lights came on, my cake was gone.

- 4 Buvo tamsu, paskui buvo labai smagu.

Meaning: It was dark, then it was great fun.

- 5 Negali būti. Micius buvo namie.

Meaning: That can't be. Micius was at home.

G2) WHAT WAS IT LIKE?

Choose the right word for the gap.

- 1 Buvo labai _____.

- ☐ A tamsu
- ☐ B tamsi
- ☐ C tamsus

Meaning: It was very dark.

- 2 Buvo labai _____.

- ☐ A smagi
- ☐ B smagu
- ☐ C smagus

Meaning: It was great fun.

3 Vakare buvo _____.

- ☐ A šalta
- ☐ B šaltas
- ☐ C šaltu

Meaning: It was cold in the evening.

4 Buvo _____. Labai keista.

- ☐ A keistu
- ☐ B keista
- ☐ C keistas

Meaning: It was strange. Very strange.

5 Elzei buvo _____.

- ☐ A nuobodu
- ☐ B nuobodi
- ☐ C nuobodus

Meaning: Elzė was bored.

6 Koncerte buvo labai _____.

- ☐ A gražu
- ☐ B gražus
- ☐ C graži

Meaning: It was very beautiful at the concert.

7 Paskui buvo _____.

- ☐ A šilta
- ☐ B šiltas
- ☐ C šiltu

Meaning: Then it was warm.

G3) WHAT HAPPENED: WE, YOU, THEY

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Mes _____ prie scenos.

- ☐ A šokote
- ☐ B šoko
- ☐ C šokome

Meaning: We danced by the stage.

2 Ponia Ona, jūs irgi _____?

- ☐ A šoko
- ☐ B šokote
- ☐ C šokome

Meaning: Mrs Ona, did you dance too?

3 Tomas _____ labai gražiai.

- ☐ A šokote
- ☐ B šokome
- ☐ C šoko

Meaning: Tomas danced very nicely.

4 Mes _____ su vaikais.

- ☐ A dainavo
- ☐ B dainavome
- ☐ C dainavote

Meaning: We sang with the children.

5 Vaikai, jūs labai gražiai _____!

- ☐ A dainavo
- ☐ B dainavome
- ☐ C dainavote

Meaning: Children, you sang beautifully!

6 Elzė ir vaikai _____ prie scenos.

- ☐ A dainavo
- ☐ B dainavome
- ☐ C dainavote

Meaning: Elzė and the children sang by the stage.

7 Mes _____ blynus.

- ☐ A valgėme
- ☐ B valgė
- ☐ C valgėte

Meaning: We ate pancakes.

8 Ar jūs _____ mano pyragą?

- ☐ A valgė
- ☐ B valgėme
- ☐ C valgėte

Meaning: Did you eat my cake?

9 Micius _____ Rūtos pyragą.

- ☐ A valgėte
- ☐ B valgė
- ☐ C valgėme

Meaning: Micius ate Rūta's cake.

G4) YOUR POSTCARD

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

Mielas Mieloji buvo bus

_____ Anna! Šeštadienį čia _____ miesto šventė.

Meaning: Dear Anna! On Saturday there was the town festival here.

valgysime valgėme šokome šoko

Mes _____ blynus ir _____.

Meaning: We ate pancakes and danced.

dainuos grojau grojo dainavo

Elzė _____ su vaikais, o Jonas _____.

Meaning: Elzė sang with the children, and Jonas played.

Buvo nupirksiu Buvau nupirkau

_____ labai smagu. Rytoj _____ pašto ženklą.

Meaning: It was great fun. Tomorrow I'll buy a stamp.

Tavo Mano

Iki! _____ Lena

Meaning: Bye! Yours, Lena

šalta šaltas šiltas šilta

Vakare buvo _____, paskui _____.

Meaning: In the evening it was cold, then warm.

tamsu tamsus keista keistas

Paskui buvo _____ ir labai _____.

Meaning: Then it was dark and very strange.

dainavote šokome šokote dainavome

Ponia Ona, jūs _____ ir _____!

Meaning: Mrs Ona, you danced and sang!

G5) PUT THE WORDS IN ORDER

Put the words in order.

- 1 čia Šeštadienį buvo miesto šventė.

Meaning: On Saturday there was the town festival here.

- 2 dainavome. Mes šokome valgėme, ir

Meaning: We ate, danced and sang.

3 prekystalio. kavinės prie dirbau Aš

Meaning: I worked at the café stall.

4 labai smagu. Buvo

Meaning: It was great fun.

5 ženklą. Rytoj nupirksiu pašto

Meaning: Tomorrow I'll buy a stamp.

6 labai gražiai. Tomas šoko

Meaning: Tomas danced very nicely.

- 7 valgėte Ar jūs pyragą? mano

Meaning: Did you eat my cake?

- 8 valgė pyragą. visą Micius

Meaning: Micius ate the whole cake.

G6) THE RIGHT WORDS

Choose the right words for the situation.

- 1 Anna asks how the festival was. Say it was great fun. You say:

- (A) Buvo labai smagus!
- (B) Buvo labai smagu!
- (C) Bus labai smagu!

- 2 Tell Anna that the cake was gone. You say:

- (A) Pyrago nebus.
- (B) Pyragas nebuvo.
- (C) Pyrago nebuvo.

3 Say what you did at the festival. You worked at the café stall.**You say:**

- ☐ A Aš dirbsiu prie kavinės prekystalio.
- ☐ B Aš dirbo prie kavinės prekystalio.
- ☐ C Aš dirbau prie kavinės prekystalio.

4 Start a postcard to your friend Anna. You say:

- ☐ A Mieloji Annai!
- ☐ B Mieloji Anna!
- ☐ C Mielas Anna!

5 Tell Anna what the weather was like that evening. You say:

- ☐ A Vakare buvo šalta, paskui šilta.
- ☐ B Vakare bus šalta, paskui šilta.
- ☐ C Vakare buvo šaltas, paskui šiltas.

G7) THEN, NOW AND LATER

Match the pairs.

① buvome

Ⓐ it was, there was

② yra

Ⓑ there wasn't

③ būsime

Ⓒ we were

④ nebuvo

Ⓓ there won't be

⑤ bus

Ⓔ it is, there is

⑥ nebus

Ⓕ we will be

⑦ buvo

Ⓖ it will be, there will be