

## SCENE 20 • GRAMMAR

# Var / hade

## First past states

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

[Photos on the wall](#)[Swedish](#)*Read & listen online* 

## First past states

The past of **vara** is **var** and of **ha** is **hade**, for every person. They describe an earlier state: **Jag var tio; Lägenheten var min; Jag hade en trumpet.** A few earlier story phrases used them as chunks; now practise them productively. **Gift** means married and stays the same for a male or female person here. **Barn** has the same indefinite form for one child and several children.

Jag var tio år.

I was ten years old.

Lägenheten var min.

The flat was mine.

Vi hade en katt.

We had a cat.

Han hade en trumpet.

He had a trumpet.

Jag är inte gift.

I am not married.

Har du barn?

Do you have children?

The past tense describes an earlier time; here the forms are **var** and **hade**.

## GRAMMAR

### G1) NOTICE THE USEFUL PATTERN

Underline the form practised in this unit.

1 Jag var tio år.

Meaning: I was ten years old.

2 Lägenheten var min.

Meaning: The flat was mine.

3 Vi hade en katt.

Meaning: We had a cat.

4 Han hade en trumpet.

Meaning: He had a trumpet.

**G2) CHOOSE THE FORM**

Use the English meaning and the pattern in this unit.

**1 Jag \_\_\_\_\_ tio år.**

- ☐ A var
- ☐ B vara
- ☐ C är

Meaning: I was ten years old.

**2 Lägenheten \_\_\_\_\_ min.**

- ☐ A var
- ☐ B vara
- ☐ C är

Meaning: The flat was mine.

**3 Vi \_\_\_\_\_ en katt.**

- ☐ A har
- ☐ B hade
- ☐ C ha

Meaning: We had a cat.

**4 Han \_\_\_\_\_ en trumpet.**

- ☐ A har
- ☐ B ha
- ☐ C hade

Meaning: He had a trumpet.

**5 Jag är inte \_\_\_\_\_.**

- ☐ A gift
- ☐ B giften
- ☐ C gifta

Meaning: I am not married.

**6 Har du \_\_\_\_\_?**

- ☐ A barn
- ☐ B barnen
- ☐ C barnet

Meaning: Do you have children?

**G3) COMPLETE THE MESSAGES**

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

har hade

Vi \_\_\_\_\_ en katt.

Meaning: We had a cat.

har hade

Han \_\_\_\_\_ en trumpet.

Meaning: He had a trumpet.

gifta gift

Jag är inte \_\_\_\_\_.

Meaning: I am not married.

barnet barn

Har du \_\_\_\_\_?

Meaning: Do you have children?

#### G4) BUILD A SENTENCE

Put the words in order.

1 var Jag tio år.

Meaning: I was ten years old.

2 min. var Lägenheten

Meaning: The flat was mine.

3 hade Vi katt. en

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Meaning: We had a cat.

4 en hade Han trumpet.

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Meaning: He had a trumpet.

5 inte gift. Jag är

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Meaning: I am not married.

6 barn? Har du

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Meaning: Do you have children?

**G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?**

Choose the right words for the situation.

**1 I was ten years old. You say:**

- ☐ A Jag är tio år.
- ☐ B Jag var tio år.

**2 The flat was mine. You say:**

- ☐ A Lägenheten är min.
- ☐ B Lägenheten var min.

**3 We had a cat. You say:**

- ☐ A Vi hade en katt.
- ☐ B Vi har en katt.

**4 He had a trumpet. You say:**

- ☐ A Han hade en trumpet.
- ☐ B Han har en trumpet.

**G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS**

Match the pairs.

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| ① Jag var tio år.      | ① A We had a cat.         |
| ② Har du barn?         | ② B I am not married.     |
| ③ Han hade en trumpet. | ③ C He had a trumpet.     |
| ④ Vi hade en katt.     | ④ D I was ten years old.  |
| ⑤ Lägenheten var min.  | ⑤ E Do you have children? |
| ⑥ Jag är inte gift.    | ⑥ F The flat was mine.    |