

SCENE 44 • GRAMMAR

Byla jste tam?

Other people in the past

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

The festival

Czech

Read & listen online 



Other people in the past

For a man use **byl, spal, viděl**; for a woman **byla, spala, viděla**. Familiar you adds **jsi**, polite you **jste**. A polite address to one woman is **Byla jste tam?**, not a plural participle.

For plural groups, masculine animate takes **byli/spali/viděli**, feminine or masculine inanimate takes **byly/spaly/viděly**, and neuter plural takes **byla/spala/viděla**. The forms **jsme/jste** indicate we/you. In the third person the participle stands alone.

Czech	Meaning
Marie spala na lavičce.	Marie slept on the bench.
Jan viděl Mourka.	Jan saw Mourek.
Paní Nováková, byla jste tam?	Mrs Nováková, were you there?
Jan a Tomáš byli doma.	Jan and Tomáš were at home.

Marie spala na lavičce.

Marie slept on the bench.

Jan viděl Mourka.

Jan saw Mourek.

Paní Nováková, byla jste tam?

Mrs Nováková, were you there?

Jan a Tomáš byli doma.

Jan and Tomáš were at home.

GRAMMAR

G1) NOTICE THE USEFUL PATTERN

Underline the form practised in this unit.

- 1 Marie spala na lavičce.

Meaning: Marie slept on the bench.

- 2 Jan viděl Mourka.

Meaning: Jan saw Mourek.

- 3 Paní Nováková, byla jste tam?

Meaning: Mrs Nováková, were you there?

- 4 Jan a Tomáš byli doma.

Meaning: Jan and Tomáš were at home.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Use the English meaning and the pattern in this unit.

1 Marie _____ na lavičce.

- ☐ A spal
- ☐ B spali
- ☐ C spala

Meaning: Marie slept on the bench.

2 Jan _____ Mourka.

- ☐ A viděly
- ☐ B viděl
- ☐ C viděla

Meaning: Jan saw Mourek.

3 Paní Nováková, _____ jste tam?

- ☐ A byl
- ☐ B byly
- ☐ C byla

Meaning: Mrs Nováková, were you there?

4 Jan a Tomáš _____ doma.

- ☐ A byly
- ☐ B byli
- ☐ C byla

Meaning: Jan and Tomáš were at home.

G3) COMPLETE THE MESSAGES

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

spala spal

Marie _____ na lavičce.

Meaning: Marie slept on the bench.

viděl viděla

Jan _____ Mourka.

Meaning: Jan saw Mourek.

byla byl

Paní Nováková, _____ jste tam?

Meaning: Mrs Nováková, were you there?

byli byly

Jan a Tomáš _____ doma.

Meaning: Jan and Tomáš were at home.

G4) BUILD A SENTENCE

Put the words in order.

1 spala Marie lavičce. na

Meaning: Marie slept on the bench.

- 2 Mourka. Jan viděl

Meaning: Jan saw Mourek.

- 3 jste Paní byla tam? Nováková,

Meaning: Mrs Nováková, were you there?

- 4 byli Jan doma. a Tomáš

Meaning: Jan and Tomáš were at home.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

- 1 Marie slept on the bench. You say:

- (A) Marie spala na lavičce.
(B) Marie spal na lavičce.

2 Jan saw Mourek. You say:

- ☐ A Jan viděl Mourka.
- ☐ B Jan viděla Mourka.

3 Mrs Nováková, were you there? You say:

- ☐ A Paní Nováková, byl jste tam?
- ☐ B Paní Nováková, byla jste tam?

4 Jan and Tomáš were at home. You say:

- ☐ A Jan a Tomáš byli doma.
- ☐ B Jan a Tomáš byly doma.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ 1 Jan viděl Mourka. | ☐ A Jan and Tomáš were at home. |
| ☐ 2 Paní Nováková, byla jste tam? | ☐ B Jan saw Mourek. |
| ☐ 3 Marie spala na lavičce. | ☐ C Mrs Nováková, were you there? |

- ④ Jan a Tomáš byli doma.
- ④ Marie slept on the bench.