

SCENE 20 • GRAMMAR

Ik was jong

Earlier states

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

Photos on the wall

Dutch

Read & listen online ↗



Past tense: A verb form for an earlier time; **was/waren** and **had/hadden** precede event narration.

Earlier states

The past tense forms of **zijn** are **ik/jij/u/hij/zij/het was, wij/jullie/zij waren**. The forms of **hebben** are **ik/jij/u/hij/zij/het had, wij/jullie/zij hadden**. Use these for earlier ages, places and possessions. The word order is the same as in the present.

Ik ben geboren means I was born. Learn that expression whole now; it does not change for a man or a woman. **Getrouwd** (married) also stays the same. Keep early childhood descriptions short. **Ik woonde hier toen ik klein was** is a remembered-background expression; **toen** puts the verb at the end of its clause.

Form	Example	Meaning
was	Ik was tien.	I was ten.
was	Jij was jong.	You were young.
was	Hij was hier.	He was here.
waren	Wij waren thuis.	We were at home.
waren	Jullie waren jong.	You all were young.
hadden	Zij hadden een kat.	They had a cat.
had	U had een foto.	You had a photo.
getrouwd	Ik ben niet getrouwd.	I am not married.

Ik was tien.

I was ten.

Jij was jong.

You were young.

Hij was hier.

He was here.

Wij waren thuis.

We were at home.

Jullie waren jong.

You all were young.

Zij hadden een kat.

They had a cat.

U had een foto.

You had a photo.

Ik ben niet getrouwd.

I am not married.

GRAMMAR**G1) NOTICE THE USEFUL PATTERN**

Underline the form practised in this unit.

1 Ik was tien.

Meaning: I was ten.

2 Jij was jong.

Meaning: You were young.

3 Hij was hier.

Meaning: He was here.

4 Wij waren thuis.

Meaning: We were at home.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Use the English meaning and the pattern in this unit.

1 Ik _____ tien.

- ☐ A was
- ☐ B ben
- ☐ C waren

Meaning: I was ten.

2 Jij _____ jong.

- ☐ A was
- ☐ B bent
- ☐ C waren

Meaning: You were young.

3 Hij _____ hier.

- ☐ A waren
- ☐ B was
- ☐ C zijn

Meaning: He was here.

4 Wij _____ thuis.

- ☐ A was
- ☐ B zijn
- ☐ C waren

Meaning: We were at home.

5 Jullie _____ jong.

- ☐ A waren
- ☐ B is
- ☐ C was

Meaning: You all were young.

6 Zij _____ een kat.

- ☐ A hadden
- ☐ B heeft
- ☐ C had

Meaning: They had a cat.

7 U _____ een foto.

- ☐ A heeft
- ☐ B hadden
- ☐ C had

Meaning: You had a photo.

8 Ik ben niet _____.

- ☐ A getrouwden
- ☐ B getrouwde
- ☐ C getrouwd

Meaning: I am not married.

G3) COMPLETE THE MESSAGES

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

waren was

Hij _____ hier.

Meaning: He was here.

was waren

Wij _____ thuis.

Meaning: We were at home.

was waren

Jullie _____ jong.

Meaning: You all were young.

had hadden

Zij _____ een kat.

Meaning: They had a cat.

hadden had

U _____ een foto.

Meaning: You had a photo.

getrouwde getrouwd

Ik ben niet _____.

Meaning: I am not married.

G4) BUILD A SENTENCE

Put the words in order.

1

was

Ik

tien.

Meaning: I was ten.

2 jong. was Jij

Meaning: You were young.

3 hier. Hij was

Meaning: He was here.

4 waren Wij thuis.

Meaning: We were at home.

5 Jullie jong. waren

Meaning: You all were young.

- 6 een kat. hadden Zij

Meaning: They had a cat.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 I was ten. You say:

- ☐ A Ik waren tien.
- ☐ B Ik was tien.

2 You were young. You say:

- ☐ A Jij waren jong.
- ☐ B Jij was jong.

3 He was here. You say:

- ☐ A Hij was hier.
- ☐ B Hij waren hier.

4 We were at home. You say:

- (A) Wij waren thuis.
- (B) Wij was thuis.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) Ik was tien. | (A) You had a photo. |
| (2) U had een foto. | (B) You all were young. |
| (3) Jij was jong. | (C) We were at home. |
| (4) Jullie waren jong. | (D) I am not married. |
| (5) Ik ben niet
getrouwd. | (E) They had a cat. |
| (6) Wij waren thuis. | (F) I was ten. |
| (7) Hij was hier. | (G) You were young. |
| (8) Zij hadden een kat. | (H) He was here. |