

SCENE 44 • GRAMMAR

Gulēju, negulēju

Past background and saying what is false

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

The festival

Latvian

Read & listen online 

Past background and saying what is false

Latvian simple past can express a completed action or a background activity. **Es gulēju** can mean I slept or I was sleeping. There is no separate imperfect form needed for this story.

The full past of **gulēt** is **gulēju, gulēji, gulēja, gulējām, gulējāt, gulēja**. Negative forms add **ne-**. Compare the action **Es aizvēru acis**, I closed my eyes.

For an earlier state use **bija** with a describing word. **Ir taisnība** means is right; **nav taisnība** means is not true or is not right. Keep a correction simple.

Form	Example	Meaning
gulēju	Es gulēju.	I was sleeping.
gulēji	Tu gulēji.	You were sleeping, familiar.
gulēja	Viņa gulēja.	She was sleeping.
gulējām	Mēs gulējām.	We were sleeping.
gulējāt	Jūs gulējāt.	You were sleeping, polite.
gulēja	Viņi gulēja.	They were sleeping.
negulēju	Es negulēju.	I was not sleeping.
negulējāt	Jūs negulējāt.	You were not sleeping, polite.

Es gulēju.

I was sleeping.

Tu gulēji.

You were sleeping, familiar.

Viņa gulēja.

She was sleeping.

Mēs gulējām.

We were sleeping.

Jūs gulējāt.

You were sleeping, polite.

Viņi gulēja.

They were sleeping.

Es negulēju.

I was not sleeping.

Jūs negulējāt.

You were not sleeping, polite.

GRAMMAR**G1) NOTICE THE USEFUL PATTERN**

Underline the form practised in this unit.

1 Es gulēju.

Meaning: I was sleeping.

2 Tu gulēji.

Meaning: You were sleeping, familiar.

3 Viņa gulēja.

Meaning: She was sleeping.

4 Mēs gulējām.

Meaning: We were sleeping.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Use the English meaning and the pattern in this unit.

1 Es _____.

- ☐ A gulēji
- ☐ B gulējām
- ☐ C gulēju

Meaning: I was sleeping.

2 Tu _____.

- ☐ A gulējāt
- ☐ B gulēji
- ☐ C gulēju

Meaning: You were sleeping, familiar.

3 Viņa _____.

- ☐ A gulēju
- ☐ B gulējām
- ☐ C gulēja

Meaning: She was sleeping.

4 Mēs _____.

- ☐ A gulējāt
- ☐ B gulējām
- ☐ C gulēja

Meaning: We were sleeping.

5 Jūs _____.

- ☐ A gulēju
- ☐ B gulējāt
- ☐ C gulējām

Meaning: You were sleeping, polite.

6 Viņi _____.

- ☐ A gulēja
- ☐ B gulēju
- ☐ C gulējām

Meaning: They were sleeping.

7 **Es** _____.

- ☐ A negulējām
- ☐ B negulēju
- ☐ C gulēju

Meaning: I was not sleeping.

8 **Jūs** _____.

- ☐ A gulējāt
- ☐ B negulējāt
- ☐ C negulēju

Meaning: You were not sleeping, polite.

G3) COMPLETE THE MESSAGES

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

gulēja gulēju

Viņa _____.

Meaning: She was sleeping.

gulējām gulējāt

Mēs _____.

Meaning: We were sleeping.

gulējāt gulēju

Jūs _____.

Meaning: You were sleeping, polite.

gulēja gulēju

Viņi _____.

Meaning: They were sleeping.

negulēju gulēju

Es _____.

Meaning: I was not sleeping.

negulējāt gulējāt

Jūs _____.

Meaning: You were not sleeping, polite.

G4) BUILD A SENTENCE

Put the words in order.

1 gulēju. Es Tagad

Meaning: Now: I was sleeping.

- 2 gulēji. Tagad Tu

Meaning: Now: You were sleeping, familiar.

- 3 Tagad gulēja. Viņa

Meaning: Now: She was sleeping.

- 4 Tagad gulējām. Mēs

Meaning: Now: We were sleeping.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

- 1 I was sleeping. You say:

- (A) Es gulēju.
(B) Es gulēji.

2 You were sleeping, familiar. You say:

☐ A Tu gulēji.

☐ B Tu gulēju.

3 She was sleeping. You say:

☐ A Viņa gulēju.

☐ B Viņa gulēja.

4 We were sleeping. You say:

☐ A Mēs gulējām.

☐ B Mēs gulējāt.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| ① Es negulēju. | Ⓐ You were not sleeping, polite. |
| ② Viņa gulēja. | Ⓑ I was sleeping. |
| ③ Mēs gulējām. | Ⓒ You were sleeping, polite. |
| ④ Viņi gulēja. | Ⓓ She was sleeping. |
| ⑤ Jūs gulējāt. | Ⓔ I was not sleeping. |
| ⑥ Tu gulēji. | Ⓕ We were sleeping. |
| ⑦ Es gulēju. | Ⓖ They were sleeping. |
| ⑧ Jūs negulējāt. | Ⓗ You were sleeping, familiar. |