

LESSON 18: STATEMENTS & QUESTIONS WITH "WAS" AND "WERE"

- Use " was " or " were " in statements beginning with :

I we he she they

1. I

2. we

3. he

4. she

5. they

- Use " was " or " were " in questions with :

I we he she they

6. I

7. we

8. he

9. she

10. they

SELF-CHECK & CONCORD

Singular pronouns (I, he, she) take **was**. Plural pronouns (we, they) take **were**. Statements end with (.), questions begin with Was/Were and end with (?).

LESSON 18: STATEMENTS & QUESTIONS WITH "WAS" AND "WERE" — TEACHER GUIDE

CORE LINGUISTIC CONCEPTS & OBJECTIVES

- Pronoun - Verb Concord:** Singular pronouns (*I, he, she*) pair with *was*. Plural pronouns (*we, they*) pair with *were*.
- Interrogative Inversion:** Questions invert the order into *Was / Were + Subject*. Capitalize the initial verb and end with a question mark (?).
- Open Composition:** Students compose original sentences. Any semantically sound sentence obeying concord and punctuation is correct.

1.	Statement	I	was	I was reading a story quietly.	1st person singular; requires <i>was</i> . Capital "I" always capitalized. Period at end.
2.	Statement	we	were	We were playing in the garden.	1st person plural; requires <i>were</i> . Capitalize "We" as first word. Period at end.
3.	Statement	he	was	He was helpful to his teacher.	3rd person singular masculine; requires <i>was</i> . Capitalize "He". Period at end.
4.	Statement	she	was	She was singing a sweet song.	3rd person singular feminine; requires <i>was</i> . Capitalize "She". Period at end.
5.	Statement	they	were	They were glad to see their friends.	3rd person plural; requires <i>were</i> . Capitalize "They". Period at end.
6.	Question	I	was	Was I right about the answer?	Inversion: <i>Was + I</i> . Capitalize initial verb "Was". Capitalize pronoun "I". Question mark (?) at end.
7.	Question	we	were	Were we early for school?	Inversion: <i>Were + we</i> . Capitalize initial verb "Were". Lowercase "we". Question mark (?) at end.
8.	Question	he	was	Was he asleep in his bed?	Inversion: <i>Was + he</i> . Capitalize initial verb "Was". Lowercase "he". Question mark (?) at end.
9.	Question	she	was	Was she ready for the game?	Inversion: <i>Was + she</i> . Capitalize initial verb "Was". Lowercase "she". Question mark (?) at end.
10.	Question	they	were	Were they listening carefully?	Inversion: <i>Were + they</i> . Capitalize initial verb "Were". Lowercase "they". Question mark (?) at end.

 **CHORAL CHANT & AUDITORY MEMORY**

Conduct rapid rhythm drills with the class: "*I was! We were! He was! She was! They were!*" Repeat in reverse for questions: "*Was I? Were we? Was he? Was she? Were they?*"

 **MECHANICS OF INVERSION**

Point out to students that in questions, the pronoun does not come first. The linking verb *Was / Were* moves to the front, which changes what gets capitalized!

 **THE PRONOUN "I" RULE**

Remind students that the pronoun **I** is ALWAYS capitalized, whether it begins a sentence (*I was...*) or sits inside a question (*Was I...?*).

 **OPEN SENTENCE EVALUATION**

Since Lesson 18 invites original sentence formulation, evaluate student submissions based on: (1) correct concord, (2) proper capitalization, (3) correct end punctuation, and (4) complete thought.

PEDAGOGICAL STANDARD

Aligned with Classical Trivium Grammar Stage & CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1.1.C, L.1.1.J, L.1.2.B