# Workshop 20: Who Took the Cake? 🔍🎂

**Name:** _____ **Level:** _____

In this workshop you will talk about the past with **was, were, could**, and many regular and irregular verbs. You will also describe a house with **there is** and **there are**, and with **a, an, some**, and **any**. You will learn words for the house, solve a mystery at a coffee farm in Colombia, write about your weekend, and make a video tour of your home.

## Your plan for today 🗺️


**Part 1** Your book (Grammar Bank 8A and 8B)
**Part 2** Rooms and things in a house (vocabulary)
**Part 3** The past simple (grammar)
**Part 4** There is and there are (grammar)
**Part 5** Who took the cake? (reading)
**Part 6** Where were you? (writing)
**Part 7** Your video: Welcome to my home! (speaking project)


## 📖 Part 1 · Your Book

This part is in your book: **Grammar Bank 8A** (the past simple) and **8B** (there is and there are). Read the grammar notes and do the exercises for 8A and 8B. If you already did them in class, well done! Start with Part 2.

### Quick recap

**The past of be:** I **was** at home. They **were** tired.
**The past of can:** I **could** hear a noise.
**Regular verbs:** watch → watched, like → liked
**Irregular verbs:** go → went, see → saw, have → had
**There is / there are:** **There's** a garage. **There are** some plants.

# Part 2 · Vocabulary: Rooms and Things in a House

## a. The rooms

This is Finca El Roble, a small coffee farm near Salento. Look at the plan and learn the names of the rooms.

### Finca El Roble

**Bedroom 1**
- a big bed
- some pictures
- a cupboard

**Bathroom**
- a shower
- a toilet
- a mirror

**Bedroom 2**
- two beds
- a cupboard

**Living room**
- a sofa
- a fireplace
- an armchair
- a carpet

**Kitchen**
- a fridge
- a cooker
- some cupboards

**Study**
- a desk
- a computer
- a TV
- some books

**Dining room**
- a big table
- six chairs

front door

**Garden** — some coffee plants — two big trees

**Another room: a garage** = a room for a car.

## b. Things in a house

Look at the pictures and learn the words.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a sofa | an armchair | a chair | a table | a carpet | a fireplace | a light |
| a bed | a cupboard | a mirror | a desk | a computer | a TV | a picture |
| a fridge | a cooker | a dishwasher | a bath | a shower | a toilet | a plant |

*A **cupboard** is a place for plates, food, or clothes. A **cooker** is where you cook. A **dishwasher** is a machine that washes plates and cups.*

### c. Which room?

Where do we usually find these things? Write the room. Number 1 is an example.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **1.** | a bed | *the bedroom* |
| **2.** | a shower | |
| **3.** | a sofa and an armchair | |
| **4.** | a fridge and a cooker | |
| **5.** | a car | |
| **6.** | a desk and a computer | |
| **7.** | trees and flowers | |
| **8.** | a big table and six chairs | |

## 🕰️ Part 3 · Grammar: The Past Simple

*Last Saturday, somebody took a birthday cake at Finca El Roble! Inspector Rojas wants to know where everybody was. To talk about it, we need the past simple.*

**THE PAST SIMPLE**

We use the past simple for finished actions in the past: yesterday, last night, last Saturday.

| | + | – | ? |
|---|---|---|---|
| **was / were (be)** | I was at home.<br>They were in the garden. | I wasn't at home.<br>They weren't in the garden. | Were you at home?<br>Was he in the garden? |
| **could (can)** | I could hear the dog. | I couldn't sleep. | Could you see the cake? |
| **regular verbs** | She watched TV. | She didn't watch TV. | Did she watch TV? |
| **irregular verbs** | He went to bed. | He didn't go to bed. | Did he go to bed? |

- **Regular verbs:** add **-ed** or **-d**. watch → watched, arrive → arrived, like → liked
- **Irregular verbs:** the past is a different word. go → went, see → saw. Learn them!
- **was, were, could:** we do not use did. **Was** he at home? ✓
- **didn't and did:** use the normal verb. She didn't **go**. ✓ She didn't **went**. ✗

**Words for the past:** yesterday · last night · last Saturday · last week · two days ago · in 2020

## Irregular verbs in this workshop

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| be → was / were | can → could | do → did | go → went |
| have → had | see → saw | eat → ate | come → came |
| get → got | take → took | make → made | put → put |
| read → read (say "red") | hear → heard | sleep → slept | sit → sat |
| speak → spoke | find → found | say → said | send → sent |
| win → won | know → knew | think → thought | buy → bought |

## a. Regular or irregular?

Write the past simple of these verbs in the correct column. The first one is an example.

**watch · go · arrive · see · want · have · like · sleep · cook · eat · finish · hear · talk**

| Regular (+ -ed or -d) | Irregular (a different word) |
|---|---|
| *watched (example)* | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

## b. The inspector asks questions

It is Sunday morning. Inspector Rojas talks to Andrés. Complete the conversation with the past simple of the verbs in brackets.

**Inspector Rojas:** Good morning, Andrés. Where [1]_____ (be) you last night between 7.00 and 9.00?

**Andrés:** I [2]_____ (be) in my bedroom. I [3]_____ (read) a book.

**Inspector Rojas:** [4]_____ you _____ (hear) anything?

**Andrés:** Yes, I [5]_____ (hear) the dog. It [6]_____ (bark) a lot.

**Inspector Rojas:** What [7]_____ you _____ (do) at 8.00?

**Andrés:** I [8]_____ (go) to the kitchen and I [9]_____ (have) a glass of water.

**Inspector Rojas:** [10]_____ you _____ (open) the fridge?

**Andrés:** No, I [11]_____ (not open) it. And I [12]_____ (not see) a cake!

### c. Negatives and questions

Change the sentences. – = negative ? = question. Number 1 is an example.

| | |
|---|---|
| **1.** | I watched TV. (–) → *I didn't watch TV.* |
| **2.** | They were in the garden. (?) → _____ |
| **3.** | She could sleep. (–) → _____ |
| **4.** | You went to the party. (?) → _____ |
| **5.** | He had a glass of water. (–) → _____ |
| **6.** | Jorge watched the match. (?) → _____ |
| **7.** | We were tired. (–) → _____ |

## Part 4 · Grammar: There Is and There Are

**THERE IS / THERE ARE**

We use there is and there are to say what is in a place.

| | One thing | Two or more things |
|---|---|---|
| **+** | There's a garden. | There are some plants. |
| **–** | There isn't a garage. | There aren't any pictures. |
| **?** | Is there a shower? | Are there any books? |
| **Answers** | Yes, there is. / No, there isn't. | Yes, there are. / No, there aren't. |

- **There's** = there is. We usually say **There's**. With are, we say the two words: **There are**.
- **a / an** + one thing: There's **a** sofa. There's **an** armchair.
- **some** + plural, in + sentences: There are **some** chairs.
- **any** + plural, in – and ? sentences: There aren't **any** chairs. Are there **any** chairs?
- **A list? Look at the first word:** There's **a bed** and two chairs. There are **two chairs** and a bed.

⚠ **Be careful: There's or It's?**

First we say that something is there. Then we talk about it with **it** or **they**.

**There's** a key on the table. **It's** the key to the kitchen.

**There are** three bedrooms. **They're** all small.

## a. Complete the sentences

Use There's, There are, There isn't, There aren't, Is there, or Are there.

| | |
|---|---|
| **1.** | (+) _____ a fireplace in the living room. |
| **2.** | (?) _____ any towels in the bathroom? |
| **3.** | (−) _____ a garage at the finca. |
| **4.** | (+) _____ some cups in the cupboard. |
| **5.** | (?) _____ a TV in your bedroom? |
| **6.** | (−) _____ any chairs in the garden. |
| **7.** | (+) _____ two bedrooms and a study. |
| **8.** | (+) _____ a sofa and an armchair. |

## b. Look at the plan

Look at the plan of Finca El Roble in Part 2. Write true sentences, + or −. Number 1 is an example.

| | |
|---|---|
| **1.** | plants / garden → *There are some plants in the garden.* |
| **2.** | TV / study → _____ |
| **3.** | TV / living room → _____ |
| **4.** | dishwasher / kitchen → _____ |
| **5.** | pictures / bedroom 1 → _____ |
| **6.** | pictures / bedroom 2 → _____ |
| **7.** | armchair / living room → _____ |

## c. Questions and short answers

Look at the plan again. Answer with Yes, there is / No, there isn't / Yes, there are / No, there aren't.

| | |
|---|---|
| **1.** | Is there a bath in the bathroom? → _____ |
| **2.** | Are there any books in the study? → _____ |
| **3.** | Is there a fireplace in the living room? → _____ |
| **4.** | Are there any chairs in the dining room? → _____ |
| **5.** | Is there a garage? → _____ |

## d. There's or It's?

Complete with There's, It's, There are, or They're.

| | |
|---|---|
| **1.** | _____ a cat in the garden. _____ black and white. |
| **2.** | _____ some coffee plants in the garden. _____ very green. |
| **3.** | _____ a big cake in the fridge. _____ for Grandma Rosa. |

# 🔍 Part 5 · Reading: Who Took the Cake?

## a. Read the story

### 🕵️ The mystery at Finca El Roble

Finca El Roble is a small coffee farm near Salento. There are two bedrooms, a kitchen, a dining room, a living room, a study, and a bathroom. There's a beautiful garden with some coffee plants and two big trees, but there isn't a garage. There's a TV in the study, but there isn't a TV in the living room.

Last Saturday, the family had a party at the finca. It was Grandma Rosa's 80th birthday. At 7.00 in the evening, Aunt Marta put a big chocolate cake in the fridge. At 9.00, she opened the fridge. The cake wasn't there!

Inspector Rojas, a friend of the family, was at the party too. On Sunday morning, she asked everybody: *Where were you last night between 7.00 and 9.00?*

| | |
|---|---|
| **👦 Andrés (16)**<br>*"I was in my bedroom. I read a book. At 8.00, I went to the kitchen and had a glass of water, but I didn't open the fridge."* | **👩 Camila**<br>*"I was in the garden with Grandma Rosa. We talked a lot and we could see the stars. We didn't go into the house."* |
| **👴 Uncle Jorge**<br>*"I was in the living room. I watched a football match on TV. It was a great match!"* | **👩‍💻 Paula**<br>*"I was in the study. I worked on my computer and I sent some emails. I didn't hear anything."* |

**Who took the cake? Read again and look at the plan in Part 2!**

## b. True or false?

Circle T (true) or F (false).

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | There are three bedrooms at the finca. | **T** | **F** |
| 2. | There isn't a garage. | **T** | **F** |
| 3. | Aunt Marta put the cake in the fridge at 7.00. | **T** | **F** |
| 4. | Camila and Grandma Rosa were in the house. | **T** | **F** |
| 5. | Andrés opened the fridge. | **T** | **F** |
| 6. | There's a TV in the living room. | **T** | **F** |
| 7. | Paula worked on her computer. | **T** | **F** |

## c. Answer the questions

| | |
|---|---|
| **1.** | Where was Andrés at 8.00?<br>_____ |
| **2.** | What could Camila and Grandma Rosa see?<br>_____ |
| **3.** | What did Paula do in the study?<br>_____ |
| **4.** | Where did Uncle Jorge watch the football match, in his story?<br>_____ |

## d. 🔍 The big question

Who took the cake? How do you know? Write two or three sentences.

## ✍️ Part 6 · Writing: Where Were You?

Inspector Rojas calls you. She asks: *Where were you last Saturday evening? What did you do?* Write your answer in 6 to 8 sentences. Use the past simple.

### Example

**Sofía, from Bogotá** 💬

Last Saturday evening, I was at home in Bogotá. At 7.00, I cooked rice and chicken. Then I had dinner with my sister. After that, we watched a film on TV. We didn't go out because it was cold and it rained a lot. I went to bed at 11.00, but I couldn't sleep!

**Useful language**

- I was at… / We were at…
- At 7.00, I… / Then I… / After that, I…
- I watched… / I cooked… / I talked to…
- I went… / I had… / I saw… / I ate…
- I didn't… / I couldn't…

**Check your text:** ☐ was / were ☐ a regular verb (-ed) ☐ an irregular verb ☐ didn't / couldn't

# 🎬 Part 7 · Your Video: Welcome to My Home!

Make a short video, 1 to 2 minutes long. Show us your home, or one or two rooms, and talk about them in English.

## a. What to say

- Welcome to my home! This is my **living room / kitchen / bedroom**.
- **There's a**… / **There are some**…
- **There isn't a**… / **There aren't any**…
- Use the past simple too: **Yesterday, I**… here. / **Last weekend, I**… in this room.

## b. How to make your video

**1** Choose two or three rooms. Write some notes.
**2** Practise two or three times before you film.
**3** Film with your phone. Speak slowly and clearly.
**4** Share your video on our class website, like your other videos.

## c. Example

*Hi! Welcome to my home. This is my kitchen. There's a big fridge, and there are some plants near the window. There isn't a dishwasher. Yesterday, I cooked arepas here for my family! And this is my living room. There's a sofa and there are two armchairs. Last night, I watched a film here.*

*You do not need to show all your home. One room is fine. You can also talk about photos of a house you like.*

## Can you…?

- ☐ talk about the past with was, were, and could
- ☐ use regular and irregular verbs in the past simple
- ☐ make negatives and questions with didn't and did
- ☐ describe a house with there is and there are
- ☐ use a, an, some, and any
- ☐ say the names of rooms and things in a house

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