

Le prétérit en be + -ing

Corrigé des exercices - niveau 4e

Be + -ing : corrigé complet des vingt exercices, avec les réponses en gras et une explication dès qu'une erreur est probable. Compare tes réponses une par une et relis la règle du cours si tu hésites encore.

Ce corrigé est à **télécharger en PDF et à imprimer gratuitement** : le bouton se trouve en bas de la page, sans inscription.

La correction détaillée

Be + -ing : corrigé exercice par exercice

Voici la correction des exercices sur le prétérit en be + -ing, dans l'ordre de la fiche.

Correction de l'exercice 1 : was ou were ?

1. I **was** listening to music.
2. My parents **were** watching the news. (sujet pluriel)
3. The dog **was** barking all night.
4. You **were** talking too loudly. (toujours were avec you)
5. Emma and I **were** walking to school. (Emma and I = we)
6. It **was** snowing in the mountains.
7. We **were** having lunch in the garden.
8. Jack **was** playing a video game.

Correction de l'exercice 2 : la forme en -ing

1. She **was swimming** in the lake. (consonne doublée)
2. They **were dancing** at the party. (e muet supprimé)
3. I **was writing** an email to my cousin.
4. The children **were running** in the playground.
5. He **was lying** on the sofa. (-ie devient -y)
6. We **were sitting** near the window.
7. You **were making** a cake.
8. My sister **was shopping** in town.

Réponses des exercices 3 à 4

Correction de l'exercice 3 : à la forme négative

1. I **wasn't** sleeping.
2. They **weren't** laughing.
3. Lucy **wasn't** wearing a hat.
4. We **weren't** working in the library.
5. The baby **wasn't** crying.
6. You **weren't** listening to me.

La négation porte sur l'auxiliaire : was not / were not, contractés en wasn't / weren't.

Correction de l'exercice 4 : poser des questions

1. **What was she reading?**
2. **Where were they going?**
3. **Why was Tom crying?**
4. **Who were you talking to?** (on reprend « you » car la question s'adresse à « I »)
5. **What were you waiting for?** (ou **What were we waiting for?** selon la personne qui parle)
6. **Was he doing his homework at nine o'clock?**

Réponses des exercices 5 à 6

Correction de l'exercice 5 : while ou when ?

1. I was cooking **when** the fire alarm went off. (événement bref)
2. **While** she was jogging, she lost her keys. (action longue)
3. The phone rang **while** I was having a bath.
4. We were playing cards **when** the lights went out.
5. **While** my parents were sleeping, I watched a film.
6. He broke his arm **while** he was skiing.
7. **When** the teacher came in, the pupils were shouting.

Correction de l'exercice 6 : action longue, action brève

1. I **was walking** in the park when I **saw** a fox.
2. She **was having** a shower when the phone **rang**.
3. While we **were watching** TV, somebody **knocked** at the door.
4. They **were playing** football when it **started** to rain.
5. When I **arrived**, my friends **were dancing**.
6. He **cut** his finger while he **was preparing** dinner.
7. While Kate **was reading**, her cat **jumped** on the table.
8. We **were driving** home when we **heard** a strange noise.

Repère toujours l'action qui dure (be + -ing) et celle qui la coupe (prétérit simple).

Réponses des exercices 7 à 8

Correction de l'exercice 7 : remets les mots dans l'ordre

1. **I was tidying my room.**
2. **What were you doing at the weekend?**
3. **It wasn't raining this morning.**
4. **She was sleeping when the alarm rang.**
5. **Where were they going?**
6. **While my father was cooking, I laid the table.**

Correction de l'exercice 8 : corrige les erreurs

1. We **were** playing tennis. (were avec we)
2. I **was watching** a film at 8 p.m. (auxiliaire oublié)
3. She **knew** the answer. (know est un verbe d'état)
4. They were **swimming** in the sea. (m doublé)
5. Were you **sleeping** when I called? (V-ing obligatoire)
6. I was reading when the doorbell **rang**. (action brève au prétérit simple)
7. He wasn't **listening** to the teacher.

Réponses des exercices 9 à 10

Correction de l'exercice 9 : que faisaient-ils à 18 h ?

1. Liam **was playing the guitar.**
2. Mrs Brown **was watering the plants.**
3. Zoe and Mia **were baking cookies.**
4. Mr Patel **was fixing his bike.**
5. The twins **were swimming at the pool.**
6. Grandpa **was sleeping in his chair.**
7. **No, he wasn't. He was fixing his bike.**
8. **No, they weren't. They were swimming at the pool.**

Correction de l'exercice 10 : traduis en anglais

1. **I was reading when you called.**
2. **It wasn't raining this morning.**
3. **What were you doing at noon?** (ou at midday)
4. **While my mother was driving, I was sleeping.** (deux actions longues simultanées)
5. **We were waiting for the train when we saw Paul.**
6. **She wasn't listening to me.**

Réponses des exercices 11 à 12

Correction de l'exercice 11 : compréhension d'un récit

1. **They were having dinner with friends.**
2. **It was stormy: the wind was blowing hard and rain was hitting the windows.**
3. **She was watching a mystery film on the sofa.**
4. **It was sleeping next to her.**
5. **She heard a noise at the front door.**
6. **Her brother opened the door.** (He had forgotten his pyjamas.)

Correction de l'exercice 12 : raconte à ton tour

Exemple de réponse modèle :

It was a quiet Sunday afternoon. The sun **was shining** and a light wind **was blowing**. My mum **was reading** in the garden and my little brother **was building** a tower with his blocks. I **was doing** a puzzle in the living room **when** I heard a loud crash. **While** I **was running** to the kitchen, our dog ran past me with a cake in its mouth! In the end, we all laughed and ate biscuits instead.

Vérifie que chaque action en cours utilise was/were + V-ing et que les événements soudains sont au prétérit simple.

Correction de l'exercice 13 : que faisaient-ils à midi ?

1. At noon, Mia **was riding her bike**.
2. Dad **was reading a newspaper**.
3. Sam and Jo **were playing football**.
4. Rex **was chasing a ball**.
5. **No, he wasn't.** He was reading a newspaper.
6. **Yes, they were.**

Correction de l'exercice 14 : complète avec le verbe

1. The boys **were running** in the park. (on double le n)
2. I **was swimming** in the sea. (on double le m)
3. She **was writing** a letter. (on enlève le e)
4. We **were making** a cake. (on enlève le e)
5. He **was sitting** on the sofa. (on double le t)
6. They **were dancing** at the party. (on enlève le e)
7. It **was getting** dark. (on double le t)

8. You **were stopping** the car. (on double le p)

Correction de l'exercice 15 : le bon mot interrogatif

1. **What** was she doing when you called?
2. **Where** were they going?
3. **Who** was talking to the teacher?
4. **Why** were you laughing?
5. **How** was he driving?
6. **What** were you reading?

Correction de l'exercice 16 : décor ou événement ?

1. **D** : une action qui dure.
2. **E** : l'événement soudain, prétérit simple.
3. **D**
4. **E**
5. **D**
6. **E**
7. **D**

Correction de l'exercice 17 : enquête du détective

1. She was playing basketball.
2. No, he wasn't. He was doing his homework.
3. Ben was.
4. He was watching it at home.
5. No, they weren't. Only Cara was playing basketball.
6. Ben was watching a film and Dan was doing his homework.

Correction de l'exercice 18 : mets au passé

1. She **was reading** a book last night.
2. They **were watching** TV last night.
3. I **was cooking** dinner last night.
4. We **were playing** cards last night.
5. He **wasn't sleeping** last night.
6. **Were you working** last night?
7. The dogs **were barking** last night.

Correction de l'exercice 19 : un dimanche pluvieux

1. It **was raining** all morning.
2. My brother and I **were playing** cards in the living room.
3. Mum **was baking** a cake in the kitchen.

4. Suddenly, the lights **went out**. (événement)
5. We **weren't worrying** because we had candles.
6. While Mum **was looking for** matches, Dad **found** a torch.
7. After that, we **ate** the cake by candlelight.

Correction de l'exercice 20 : raconte ton samedi

Exemple de réponse :

Last Saturday at eight o'clock, I was watching a film in the living room. My mum was cooking dinner. My dad was reading the newspaper. My sister was talking to her friend on the phone. My dog was sleeping on the sofa.

Vérifie : *was* avec I, he, she, it et *were* avec we, you, they.

Comment progresser après ce corrigé

Si tu as fait des erreurs sur *was* et *were*, entraîne-toi à remplacer le sujet par un pronom (Emma and I = *we*). Si tu as hésité entre les deux temps, dessine une petite ligne du temps : une barre pour l'action qui dure, une flèche pour l'événement bref. Enfin, relis tes récits en cherchant les verbes d'état comme *know*, *want* ou *like*, qui restent au présent simple. Réécris le texte de l'exercice 12 en changeant le décor : c'est le meilleur moyen de fixer le présent en *be + -ing*.

Retour aux énoncés des exercices