# Future in the Past Worksheet: Was Going To, Would

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NAME

DATE

## Remember

| Form | Example |
|---|---|
| **was / were going to: a past plan (often not done)** | I was going to study, but I fell asleep. |
| **would: a past prediction or promise** | He said he would help. I knew it would rain. |
| **was / were about to: very near future in the past** | I was about to call you. |
| **was / were supposed to: an arrangement or duty** | The train was supposed to leave at six. |

## Typical mistakes

| × Learners often say | ✓ Say instead |
|---|---|
| **I was going to called you.** | I was going to call you. |
| **He promised he will come.** | He promised he would come. |
| **We were about leaving when you rang.** | We were about to leave when you rang. |

## 1. Complete

*Complete with was / were going to, would, was / were about to or was / were supposed to and the verb in brackets.*

1. I _____ (buy) a ticket, but they were sold out.
2. She promised she _____ (write) every week.
3. We _____ (go) out when the storm started.
4. The meeting _____ (start) at nine, but the boss was late.
5. I knew the exam _____ (be) difficult.
6. They _____ (get) married in June, but they postponed it.
7. He _____ (say) something, but then he changed his mind.
8. You _____ (bring) the cake! Where is it?

## 2. Choose

*Circle the best option.*

1. I (was going to / would) visit you, but I got ill.
2. She said she (will / would) call me later.
3. We were (about to / going) leave when he arrived.
4. The package (was supposed to / would) arrive yesterday. Where is it?
5. I didn't know then that I (would / will) live here for twenty years.
6. He (was going to / was about) to quit, but they offered him more money.
7. The film (was about to / would) start, so we turned off our phones.
8. I thought it (would be / will be) easy.

## 3. Correct the mistakes

*Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.*

1. I was going to went to the gym.
2. She told me she will be late.
3. We were about to leaving.
4. He was supposed to arriving at noon.
5. I knew you will like it.
6. They were going to moved to Spain.

## Writing

Write about a plan that didn't work out (6–7 sentences): what you were going to do, what was supposed to happen, and what you thought would happen.

## Speaking

- What were you going to do last weekend that you didn't do?
- When you were a child, what did you think you would be when you grew up?
- Tell me about a time you were about to do something when you were interrupted.
- What were you supposed to do this week that you haven't done yet?

### Answer key

**1. Complete:** 1 was going to buy · 2 would write · 3 were about to go · 4 was supposed to start · 5 would be · 6 were going to get · 7 was about to say · 8 were supposed to bring

**2. Choose:** 1 was going to · 2 would · 3 about to · 4 was supposed to · 5 would · 6 was going to · 7 was about to · 8 would be

**3. Correct the mistakes:** 1 I was going to go to the gym. · 2 She told me she would be late. · 3 We were about to leave. · 4 He was supposed to arrive at noon. · 5 I knew you would like it. · 6 They were going to move to Spain.

**Writing, model answer:** Last summer we were going to drive across Spain in an old van. We were supposed to leave on 1 July, and I was sure it would be the trip of our lives. The day before, we were about to pack the van when the engine started smoking. The mechanic said it would take three weeks to fix it. In the end we took a train to the coast. It wasn't what we were going to do, but it was still wonderful.