

Was/Were

Was/Were Going To

Can you remember the structure *going to* for expressing future ideas?

The verb to be in present (*am, is* and *are [not]*) + *going to* is used to express formal or decided plans.

Take for example:

- *I **am** going to start a French course tomorrow.*
- *Cindy **is** going to have another baby.*
- *Cesar and Octavio **aren't** going to continue studying law next year.*

When we need to express the idea of a frustrated plan or a plan that was not taken into practice even when it was serious and formal, we use the same structure but we use the verb *to be* in past (***was/were [not]***).

Remember that the action verb must be used in base form.

For example:

- *I **was** going to study medicine but then I changed my mind.*
- *We **were** going to invite Jack and Alice but we did not have their phone number.*
- *Gael and Angie **weren't** going to have another baby but now they have three children.*
- *Samuel **wasn't** going to study dentistry. He convinced himself when he visited the university.*
- *She **was** going to get married, suddenly she just decided not to do it.*
- *The Christmas dinner **wasn't** going to be at Julio's house this year. They decided at the last moment.*

Was/Were

Was/Were + Planning/Supposed/Hoping

When we use the verb to be in past (*was/were*) + *planning/supposed/hoping* + *to*, we infer that a plan or project will change.

In the three cases, these structures are followed by a verb in base form.

Look at the following examples with *was/were* + *planning to*:

- *Today I **was** planning **to** wear sandals but it is too cold outside.*
- *Sally and Antonio **were** planning **to** go out to dinner together tonight but Antonio had to assist a job emergency.*
- *Our grandpa **was** planning **to** take a trip to Europe before he died.*

These examples contain the structure *was/were* + *supposed to*:

- *Anna and I **were** supposed **to** meet here at 3:00. It's 3:20 and she is not here yet!*
- *Rosie **was** supposed **to** bake the cake for Tommy's birthday but she has not even arrived.*
- *I **was** supposed **to** have three classes today but two of my teachers had to attend to an important school event.*

Was/Were

These examples contain the structure *was/were* + *supposed to*:

- *We **were** hoping **to** take the class with Mr. Adams but his class is now full.*
- *Andrea **was** hoping **to** pass the admission test but it was extremely hard.*
- *Johnny and Pamela **were** hoping **to** buy a new car this year but they could not afford to buy it.*