

Word by Word
English Readers

Book
9

Pat's Birthday



Story by Philip Gibson
Pictures by Kongphat Luangrath

Notes for Parents and Teachers

Structure Notes

Past Continuous Tense

e.g.

The children were sitting down.

Some of the children were talking.

“You weren’t listening!”

Mommy was saying goodbye to Pat’s friends.

Daddy was talking to his daughter.

While Pat was blowing out the candles, she made a wish.

While Pat was singing, the other children were listening.

The children were looking at Pat while she was opening the present.

Regular Comparatives

older

e.g.

Lee will always be older than Pat.

Lee is Pat’s older brother.

younger

e.g.

Pat will always be younger than Lee.

Pat is Lee’s younger sister.

quicker

e.g.

Pat was quicker than the other children.

We can learn this song much quicker than the other one.

quieter

e.g.

Pat’s friends were quieter than Lee’s friends.

It’s a lot quieter without those noisy children.

Irregular Comparatives

better

e.g.

Lee wants to be **better** at drawing.

Tom thinks eating is **better** than studying

Adverbs

usually

e.g.

Pat **usually** gets up before Lee.

The children **usually** go to bed at 9 o'clock.

nearly

e.g.

It's **nearly** time to go.

Dinner is **nearly** ready.

quietly

e.g.

Pat is singing **quietly**.

“Ask the children to play **quietly**.”

quickly

e.g.

The children ran outside **quickly**.

The onions and the tomatoes cook **quickly**.

carefully

e.g.

“You have to look at things **carefully**.”

Lee is listening **carefully** to the teacher.

Past Tense Verbs (Regular Verbs)

count – counted

e.g.

Pat **counted** eighteen presents.

listen – listened

e.g.

The children **listened** to Grandmother.

play – played

e.g.

The children **played** an interesting game.

show – showed

e.g.

Mommy **showed** Pat how to play the game.

stop – stopped

e.g.

When the music **stopped**, the children had to sit down.

finish – finished

e.g.

When the children **finished** the game, it was time to sing a song.

laugh – laughed

e.g.

All the children **laughed** a lot.

Past Tense Verbs (Irregular Verbs)

come – came

e.g.

Tom **came** at five o'clock.

can - could

e.g.

Grandmother **could** see the children playing.

run – ran

e.g.

The children **ran** to the chairs.

take – took

e.g.

Pat **took** the present out of the box.

win – won

e.g.

Pat **won** the game.

Long Comparatives

more expensive

e.g.

Pat's doll was **more expensive** than the other presents.

Meat is **more expensive** than vegetables.

more interesting

e.g.

Lee thinks rats are **more interesting** than parrots.

Tom thinks the food was **more interesting** than the games.

Negative Contractions

weren't = were not

e.g.

“You **weren't** listening!”

Pat's friends **weren't** noisy.

couldn't = could not

e.g.

"I **couldn't** hear what Grandfather said."

Lee **couldn't** run as quickly as Pat.

Phonic Emphasis

/br/

e.g.

Mommy is **br**inging the **br**ush.

There is some **br**own **br**ead for **br**efast.

/oul/

e.g.

"I **woul**d do it if I could."

"We **shoul**d eat the good food."

/qui/ /quie/

e.g.

quick... quickly

quiet... quietly

e.g.

Pat was very **qu**ick. She ran **qu**ickly.

but

Pat's friends were **qu**ite **qu**iet. They played **qu**ietly.

Expressions

"Not so good!"

"Go on, then!"

"Here we go!"

"I can't wait!"

Example Answers to Questions

(Remember, there are often several different ways of answering the questions correctly)

1.

1. Because it is her birthday this week.
2. She will be nine years old.
3. He is wearing a new shirt, new shorts, and new shoes.
4. He bought it last week.
5. Because he knows what (the things) Pat likes.
6. Daddy will. (Daddy will drive the children to school today.)
7. No, they are not. / Yes, they are. / Sometimes they are. Sometimes they are not.

2.

1. She told them (the children) to sit down.
2. Then, she asked them to be quiet.
3. When it is someone's birthday.
4. Because he wants to learn how to sing this song.
5. No, it isn't.
6. Yes, they can.
7. I can sing it, too. / I can't sing it.

3.

1. They are cooking onions, tomatoes and potatoes.
2. Potatoes take a long time to cook.
3. Yes, she will.
4. Because Lee and Daddy need quiet to do the homework.
5. Yes, she did.
6. No he doesn't (does not).
7. (All of) Pat's friends will.

4.

1. They like to drink coffee (after dinner).
2. Only a little. / She only gave him a little meat.
3. No, he is not.
4. Because Pat only gave him a little meat.
5. Yes, she did.
6. Yes, they were.

7. **No, she does not (doesn't).**

5.

1. **They usually go to bed at eight o'clock.**

2. **Yes, she is.**

3. **They brush their teeth.**

4. **So he can sing it to his friends. / Because he wants to sing it to his friends.**

5. **Daddy did.**

6. **Yes, he did.**

7. **Yes, she can.**

6.

1. **So she can spend a long time in the bathroom. / Because she wants to spend a long time in the bathroom.**

2. **She brushes her teeth.**

3. **Because he didn't go to bed until nearly ten o'clock.**

4. **She wants him to get up.**

5. **No, he doesn't.**

6. **No, he can't.**

7. **He is in the kitchen.**

7.

1. **He would like (to have) a bicycle.**

2. **No she wouldn't (would not)**

3. **Daddy is. (Daddy is cooking breakfast.)**

4. **No, he doesn't (does not).**

5. **Yes, she can.**

6. **In a toy shop.**

7. **No he isn't (is not).**

8.

1. **She is drawing a picture of a doll.**

2. **No, he is not (isn't).**

3. **Tom. / Tom is. / Tom is good at drawing.**

4. **No he can not (cannot / can't).**

5. **No it is not (isn't).**

6. **He can teach him (Tom) a new song.**

7. **On the classroom wall. / The teacher puts them on the classroom wall.**

9.

1. No, she isn't (is not).
2. The teacher. (The teacher sometimes gets angry.)
3. Yes, she is.
4. There are twelve tables.
5. There are eighteen chairs.
6. Because he was naughty.
7. No, he doesn't.

10.

1. He wants to buy her a new bag.
2. Mommy wants to buy (her) a bag (for her daughter).
3. Yes, she does.
4. Yes, she did.
5. She likes the big doll with the blue hat (and yellow hair).
6. It has seventeen or eighteen teeth.
7. Yes, she will.

11.

1. Because it's her birthday today.
2. Mommy did.
3. She counted eighteen presents.
4. The present from Mommy and Daddy is really big.
5. No, he can't.
6. He bought it on Monday.
7. No, he didn't.

12.

1. No, it isn't.
2. She is in the living room.
3. They put them behind the house, near the (kitchen) door.
4. Yes, she did.
5. Pat did.
6. Yes, he is.
7. Yes, he will.

13.

1. There are twenty children.
2. So she can tell them how to play the game (what to do).

3. Grandfather did.
4. When Mommy was a little girl.
5. No, he didn't.
6. Yes, she will.
7. Because he wants to eat the birthday cake.

14.

1. They were in the middle of the (living) room.
2. Mommy did. / Mommy stopped the music.
3. They had to sit down.
4. No, he couldn't (could not).
5. Yes, she could.
6. Because he wasn't quick enough.
7. Grandmother will.

15.

1. No, he did not (didn't).
2. Pat did. (Pat won the game.)
3. Because she ran so (very) quickly.
4. Yes, it is.
5. They (Tom's trousers) are blue.
6. They (Lee's trousers) are black.
7. Yes, he will.

16.

1. They listened to Pat's grandmother.
2. It is called, 'Pass the Parcel'.
3. They had to sit in a circle.
4. There were seventeen or eighteen children.
5. Tom did. / Tom won the game.
6. No, he did not. / didn't.
7. Because he wanted to win something he could eat.

17.

1. Yes, they are.
2. Yes, they do.
3. Yes, he is.
4. He (Tom) thinks eating is better.
5. Yes, she was.

6. Grandfather will.
7. So he can get the words right. / Because he sometimes can't remember all the words.

18.

1. No it is not (isn't).
2. Yes, they can.
3. No she is not (isn't).
4. They are standing around Grandfather.
5. Grandfather. / Grandfather does.
6. She is writing on a/the whiteboard.
7. Yes, she does.

19.

1. Three of her cousins are there.
2. They have to pretend to do things.
3. Yes, they do.
4. They told her they are going to sing the song at home.
5. Yes, he did.
6. No, he doesn't.
7. Because she thinks too much cake is not good for him.

20.

1. There are nine candles.
2. She has to blow out the candles (blow them out).
3. She will be ten (years old) on her next birthday.
4. She makes a wish.
5. No he does not (doesn't).
6. She is in the kitchen.
7. No, there are not (aren't).

21.

1. So everyone/everybody could eat the cake.
2. Tom. / Tom did. / Tom ate four pieces of cake.
3. They gave her a book about parrots.
4. There are seventeen or eighteen children (in the living room).
5. She is in the kitchen.
6. Yes, they are.
7. Yes, he did.

22.

1. Because it is more expensive than all the other presents.
2. Because it's Pat's birthday and not his.
3. Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.
4. It can stand up. It can walk, and it can talk.
5. It was expensive.
6. Yes, she will.
7. Yes, they can.

23.

1. At a quarter-past-seven. (It finished at a quarter-past-seven.)
2. Yes, they did.
3. Tom did. (Tom won the Pass the Parcel game.)
4. They are on their way home.
5. Because the school holiday will start next week.
6. Yes, he was.
7. No, he didn't.

24.

1. They will go to bed at (or before) nine o'clock.
2. They will sleep at Lee and Pat's house.
3. Mommy did. / Mommy gave Grandmother some medicine.
4. She is writing on a piece of paper.
5. Yes, he does.
6. No, she will not (won't).
7. Because she (Pat) played a lot of games and ran around a lot.

25.

1. Yes, it will.
2. The school holidays will start next week.
3. He will drive the children to school.
4. Lee and Tom did.
5. Yes, she did.
6. She liked the present Mommy and Daddy gave her most of all.
7. She is very, very tired.

A Gentle Reminder

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Thanks so much for reading.
Philip Gibson (Author: Word by Word graded readers)