Reasons for being late

Q: Why (are / were) you late? I am sorry I was late because ...

A: The bus came late.

A: The bus did not come.

A: I took the wrong bus.

A: I fell asleep on the bus.

A: There was a construction on the road.

A: There was an accident on the way.

A: There was a heavy traffic.

A: There was a bad traffic jam.

A: My grandson / My granddaughter was sick.

A: My appointment (with doctor's) was delayed.

A: There was a family emergency.

A: There was an urgent personal matter.

A: I woke up late. / I slept in / I could not wake up in time.

A: My car would not start.

A: I mistook the time.

A: I was not feeling well.

A: I had to take my kids to daycare (or school).

I had to give my children a ride to daycare (or school).

A: There was an urgent personal matter.