

The past simple



To Remember:

- We use the Past Simple for single actions that started and finished in the past, often with definite time expressions (yesterday, last week, ago...) :
Example: *He finished university two years ago.*
- We use it for actions that happened regularly in the past, often with expression of frequency (often, always, every week...) or duration (for a year, when I was young...):
Example: *She played tennis every day when she was a child.*
- We use it for state or situations that were true in the past but are not true now:

Forms:

Example: *I lived in Paris a year ago, now I live in London.*

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
I worked	I didn't work	Did I work ?
You worked	You didn't work	Did you work ?
He/she/it worked	He/she/it didn't work	Did he/she/it work?
We worked	We didn't work	Did we work ?
You worked	You didn't work	Did you work ?
They worked	They didn't work	Did they work

Warning:

- The past tense of "to be" is was/were :
Examples: *I was young - They weren't on time - Was Luke with them?*
- Some verbs do not form their past simple in -ed. They are called irregular verbs. (See the list of irregular verbs page 3)
Examples: (to run) She ran – (to go) – they went to Paris – (to eat) He ate pizza.

Exercise:

Fill in the gap with the Past Simple of the verbs in brackets:

- a) My brother and I **(to like)** to play video games ?
- b) Lauren **(to cry)** every time she **(to watch)** this film.
- c) My parents **(to sell)** computers?
- d) Issa **(to meet)** all the criteria.
- e) The show **(to start)** at 7pm.
- f) I **(to not understand)** this poem.
- g) Andrew **(to play)** basketball every day.

Speaking:

Discuss with your partner / group:

- a) What did you do last weekend?
- b) Why did you arrive late?
- c) What did you study?
- d) What sports/activities did you do when you were a child?

Writing:

Create a dialogue. Prepare it to impress the rest of the class.

Choose a topic :

- a) Complain to the after-sales service.
- b) Your last holidays.
- c) Talk about your first love.
- d) A memorable _____ event.

**Irregular
verbs**

When you use a simple past form or a past participle form of a verb, some verbs are regular verbs and some verbs are irregular verbs. If a verb is regular, the past simple and past participle end in **-ed**. But when the past simple and past participle don't end in **-ed**, the verb is irregular. The following verbs are irregular verbs.

Infinitive	Simple Past	Past Participle
to awake	awoke	awoken
to be	was	been
to beat	beat	beat
to become	became	become
to begin	began	begun
to bend	bent	bent
to bite	bit	bitten
to bleed	bled	bled
to blow	blew	blown
to break	broke	broken
to bring	brought	brought
to build	built	built
to burn	burnt/burned	burnt/burned
to buy	bought	bought
to catch	caught	caught
to choose	chose	chosen
to come	came	come
to cost	cost	cost

to cut	cut	cut
to deal	dealt	dealt
to dig	dug	dug
to do	did	done
to draw	drew	drawn
to dream	dreamt/dreamed	dreamt/dreamed
to drink	drank	drunk
to drive	drove	driven
to eat	ate	eaten
to fall	fell	fallen
to feed	fed	fed
to feel	felt	felt
to fight	fought	fought
to find	found	found
to fly	flew	flown
to forget	forgot	forgotten
to freeze	froze	frozen
to get	got	got
to give	gave	given
to go	went	gone
to grow	grew	grown
to hang	hung	hung
to hang	hanged	hanged

to have (got)	had	had
to hear	heard	heard
to hide	hid	hid
to hit	hit	hit
to hold	held	held
to hurt	hurt	hurt
to keep	kept	kept
to know	knew	known
to lay	laid	laid
to lead	led	led
to learn	learnt/learned	learnt/learned
to leave	left	left
to let	let	let
to lie	lay	lain
to light	lit	lit
to lose	lost	lost
to make	made	made
to mean	meant	meant
to meet	met	met
to pay	paid	paid
to prove	proved	proved/proven
to put	put	put
to read	read	read

to ride	rode	ridden
to ring	rang	rung
to rise	rose	risen
to run	ran	run
to say	said	said
to see	saw	seen
to sell	sold	sold
to send	sent	sent
to shake	shook	shaken
to shine	shone	shone
to shoot	shot	shot
to show	showed	showed/shown
to shut	shut	shut
to sing	sang	sung
to sit	sat	sat
to sleep	slept	slept
to smell	smelt/smelled	smelt/smelled
to speak	spoke	spoken
to spend	spent	spent
to stand	stood	stood
to steal	stole	stolen
to stick	stuck	stuck
to stink	stank/stunk	stunk

to swear	swore	sworn
to swim	swam	swum
to take	took	taken
to teach	taught	taught
to tear	tore	torn
to tell	told	told
to think	thought	thought
to throw	threw	thrown
to understand	understood	understood
to wear	wore	worn
to win	won	won
to write	wrote	written

