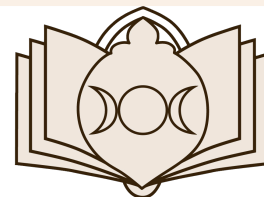


Past Simple



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01 / Finished past events and situations | A1-B1

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Yesterday has its own grammar. No auxiliary ghosts required.

Use	Example
A completed past event	I visited London last year.
Events in sequence	I opened the door, walked in and sat down.
Repeated past actions	When I was a child, I played outside every day.
A state during a past period	I lived in Brno in 2018.
A historical event	Shakespeare died in 1616.

Past does not automatically mean “no longer true”

I lived here in 2018. describes the past. It does not by itself prove that I have moved.

I used to live here. normally implies a change.

Past Simple places something in a past time frame. Context tells us what is true now.

Common time expressions

yesterday; last week; two days ago; in 2010; when I was a child

A time expression need not appear if the past context is already clear.

Today can describe a finished event: I had breakfast at eight today.

Past Simple or Present Perfect?

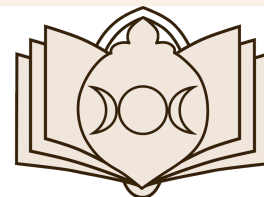
I saw that film last Friday. = a finished past time.

I've seen that film. = experience connected to now.

Use Past Simple for finished past details, even after a Present Perfect question.



Past Simple



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02 / Forms: ordinary verbs

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Form	Pattern	Example
Positive	subject + Past Simple	She worked. / She went.
Negative	subject + didn't + base verb	She didn't work. / She didn't go.
Question	Did + subject + base verb?	Did she work? / Did she go?
Short answers	Yes, subject + did. No, subject + didn't.	Yes, she did. No, she didn't.

DID carries the past

Did you go? NOT Did you went?

He didn't study. NOT He didn't studied.

Regular and irregular verbs follow the same question and negative pattern.

Wh-questions

Where did you go?

What did she buy?

Who called? = WHO is the subject, so no extra DID.

Who did you call? = YOU is the subject; WHO is the object.

DO as the main verb

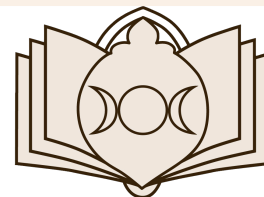
What did you do yesterday?

First DID = auxiliary. Second DO = main verb.

Positive: **I did my homework.** Negative: **I didn't do my homework.**



Past Simple



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03 / BE and irregular verbs

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Subject	Positive	Negative	Question
I / he / she / it	was	wasn't	Was she ready?
you / we / they	were	weren't	Were they ready?

She was at home. → Was she at home?

No DID with this BE pattern. NOT Did she was at home?

Were you tired? → Yes, I was. / No, I wasn't. (One person answering.)

Useful irregular Past Simple forms

Base	Past Simple	Base	Past Simple
go	went	see	saw
have	had	do	did
eat	ate	drink	drank
write	wrote	read	read /red/
take	took	give	gave
buy	bought	make	made
leave	left	find	found
know	knew	meet	met

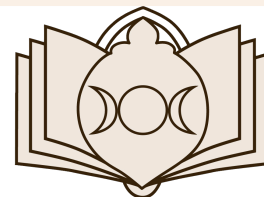
Past Simple forms are normally the same for every subject, except BE.

V2 belongs in an affirmative past sentence: She **went**.

V3 belongs after perfect HAVE: She has **gone**.



Past Simple



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Spelling reference & final check

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Regular -ED forms: spelling

Rule	Examples
Usually add -ed	work → worked; finish → finished
Final -e: add -d	live → lived; decide → decided
Consonant + -y: change y to i, add -ed	study → studied; try → tried
Vowel + -y: keep y	play → played; enjoy → enjoyed
One syllable: double final consonant after one vowel letter	stop → stopped; plan → planned
More syllables: double if the final syllable is stressed and ends in one vowel letter + one consonant	prefer → preferred; admit → admitted But open → opened; visit → visited
Do not double w, x or y; usually no doubling after two vowels or two consonants	snow → snowed; fix → fixed; rain → rained; help → helped
British final -l often doubles after one vowel letter	travel → travelled; cancel → cancelled American: traveled; canceled

Pronunciation is not the spelling

After /t/ or /d/: /ɪd/ → wanted, needed.

After other voiceless sounds: /t/ → worked, watched.

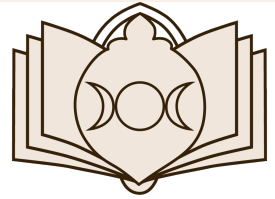
After other voiced sounds: /d/ → played, cleaned.

Choose by the final sound of the base verb, not its last letter.

Regular verbs normally have the same Past Simple and V3. Irregular verbs need their own forms: went ≠ gone, wrote ≠ written.



Past Simple



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05 / Practice: forms and spelling

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1. Write the Past Simple form

1. study _____ 2. stop _____ 3. play _____ 4. live _____
5. prefer _____ 6. open _____ 7. go _____ 8. write _____

2. Complete with Past Simple

1. We _____ (visit) the museum yesterday.
2. She _____ (not / buy) a ticket.
3. _____ you _____ (see) Tom last night?
4. I _____ (be) tired after work.
5. They _____ (not / be) at home.
6. What _____ he _____ (do) yesterday?

3. A small classroom mystery

Use Past Simple in all six gaps.

Yesterday I (1) _____ (arrive) early. The classroom (2) _____ (be) empty, but I (3) _____ (find) a note on my desk. It said "Bring biscuits." I (4) _____ (not / know) who wrote it. Then Mia (5) _____ (come) in with tea. We (6) _____ (laugh) and started the lesson.

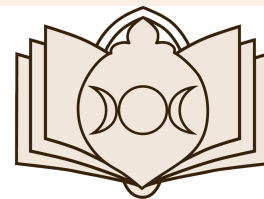
4. Correct the mistakes

1. Did you went home?
2. She didn't studied.
3. Did he was tired?
4. They was late.

5. Your turn

Write four sentences about yesterday. Include an irregular verb, a negative, BE and a question for a partner.

Past Simple



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06 / Answer key

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1. Forms

1. studied; 2. stopped; 3. played; 4. lived;
5. preferred; 6. opened; 7. went; 8. wrote.

2. Sentences

1. visited; 2. didn't buy; 3. Did / see;
4. was; 5. weren't; 6. did / do.

3. Mystery

1. arrived; 2. was; 3. found; 4. didn't know; 5. came; 6. laughed.

4. Corrections

1. Did you **go** home?
2. She didn't **study**.
3. **Was he** tired?
4. They **were** late.

5. Sample ideas

I went to work yesterday. I didn't cook dinner. I was tired in the evening. What did you do yesterday?

The spelling page includes regular -ed rules and pronunciation. Irregular forms need separate learning; fortunately, DID does not demand V2 after it.

