

Simple past tense

Bonnie: I **stayed** at my cousin's place last weekend.

Kate : Did you have fun?

Bonnie: Yes, I **had** a great time. First we **watched** a funny cartoon and **made** some cookies. Then we **tidied** the kitchen together.



We use the **simple past tense** to talk about things that happened in the past.

simple past tense verbs

regular verbs

+ ed

cook → **cooked** play → **played**

+ d

dance → **danced** hope → **hoped**

change y → i

try → **tried** cry → **cried**

short vowel + consonant → double consonant

chat → **chatted** drop → **dropped**

irregular verbs

be → **was / were**

buy → **bought**

go → **went**

have → **had**



Let's Learn!

Use the simple past tense when you see these words:

- yesterday
- last night
- a month ago
- in 2010

Practice

Underline the time phrases. Fill in the blanks with the simple past tense form of the verbs given.

- The baby _____ (cry) last night.
- Jack _____ (drop) his wallet last Sunday.
- We _____ (be) hungry so we ate a lot yesterday.
- Miss Lee _____ (be) very busy last week.
- Denise _____ (pick) some flowers an hour ago.
- The children _____ (have) a picnic last month.
- Mr and Mrs Cheng _____ (move) to Chai Wan ten years ago.
- Uncle Johnny _____ (go) to England in 2013.



Date: _____

Simple past tense

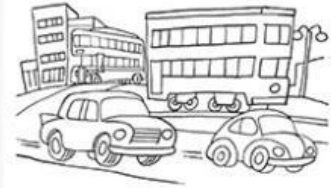
There was / were

Hong Kong in the 60s

When I was a little boy, I went to school by bus. There **were** cars, trams and ferries too but there **weren't** any MTR trains then.

I lived in Kowloon City. There **was** an airport near my home. It was very noisy. I went to the market with my mum on Sundays. We never went to a shopping centre because there **wasn't** one nearby.

Ken Wong, 60 years old



We use **there was / were** to say something existed in the past.

wasn't = was not
weren't = were not

~~There had~~There was an airport.There wasn't a theme park.~~There had~~There were buses.There weren't any MTR trains.**Practice**

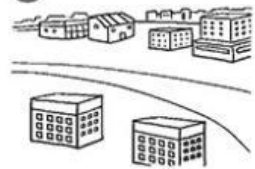
Fill in the blanks with 'was', 'wasn't', 'were' or 'weren't'.

- There _____ a fun fair in the park yesterday.
- There _____ any tall buildings 60 years ago.
- There _____ an airport in Kowloon when Mum was a girl.
- There _____ any cable cars in Hong Kong 80 years ago.
- There _____ a supermarket near my home when I was young.
- There _____ a lot of people outside the department store this morning.

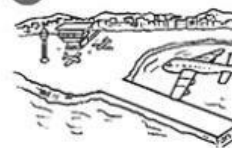
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