

PAST SIMPLE

to be

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

We use it for finished actions that are not happening now.

Jack helped Anna with her homework.

We use **was** and **were** (the past tense of be) to talk about the past.



positive

I/He/She/It	was	happy.
We/You/They	were	in the café.

negative

I/He/She/It	wasn't	happy.
We/You/They	weren't	in the café.

We usually use short forms in negative sentences.

regular verbs

Regular verbs end in -ed. Sometimes the spelling changes.

talk-talked

arrive - arrived

study - studied

travel -travelled

positive

I/He/She/It/We/You/They	helped.
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We make negative sentences with **did/didn't** and the base form of the verb.

We don't add -ed to the verb in negative sentences.

We usually use short forms in negative sentences.

negative

I/He/She/It/We/You/They	didn't help.
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irregular verbs

Some verbs have a different form in the past simple.

be-was buy-bought come-came eat-ate find-found go-went have-had

know-knew meet -met read -read see-saw win-won

positive

I/He/She/It/We/You/They	went	to school.
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negative

I/He/She/It/We/You/They	didn't go	to school.
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time expressions with the past simple

We often use these time expressions when we talk about the past: yesterday, last week, last year, two weeks ago a month ago, in 2018.

A: When did you see Sam?

B: I saw him yesterday.

past simple questions and short answers

to be

Questions words go at the start of the question.

yes/no questions

Was	I/he/she/it	happy?
Were	we/you/they	in the café?

short answers

Yes,	I/he/she/it	was
	we/you/they	were.
No,	I/he/she/it	wasn't.
	we/you/they	weren't.

We can also use question phrases in the same way.

When did you eat lunch?

How often did she have guitar lessons?

What did you do last summer?

wh- questions

Where	was	I/he/she/it?
	were	we/you/they?

regular and irregular verbs

We don't add -ed to the verb in questions. We change the word order in questions.

yes/no questions

Did	I/he/she/it/we/you/they	help? go?
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short answers

Yes,	I/he/she/it/we/you/they	did.
No,		didn't.

wh- questions

Who did	I/he/she/it/we/you/they	help?
Where did		go?



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INSTRUCTIONS: Choose the correct words to complete the blog.

My first day at secondary school **was / were** really good. The other students **was / were** very helpful, so I **was / wasn't** nervous at all. I enjoyed the lessons because they **were / weren't** boring and we learnt new things. The history teacher **was / wasn't** very funny. He made me laugh. What about you? **Was / Were** the lessons fun on your first day?

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete the sentences with these verbs

read talked took were won wore

1. Jake and Alice _____ tired after school.
2. I _____ an exciting book on holiday.
3. The teacher _____ to the students about the exam.
4. We _____ Some funny photos at break time.
5. Max _____ his new football shirt for the game.
6. She _____ a prize for her story.

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete the questions. Write one word in each gap. Match the questions (1-6) with the answers (A-F).

1. _____ did you go?
2. _____ it rain?
3. _____ you happy?
4. _____ did you leave?
5. _____ the school trip fun?
6. _____ they eat at school?

- A** Because I was tired
- B** Yes, they did.
- C** No, it didn't
- D** Yes, it was.
- E** Barcelona.
- F** Yes, I was.



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PAST SIMPLE

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the grammar box below. Match the example sentences (1-6) with the rules (A-C).

past simple

Use the past simple to talk about something that started and finished in the past.

A The past simple of *be* is *was/were*.

- + It **was** fun.
- It **wasn't** easy for him.

B Add *-ed* to form the regular past simple. Be careful of spelling changes (*study – studied, travel – travelled*).

- + A few days later, George **played** the music to Paris.

For the negative past simple, use *didn't* + infinitive form of the main verb.

- He **didn't stop** there.

C Irregular verbs do not use *-ed*.

- He then **made** a study app
- He **spoke** to the teachers.
- She **did** her homework.

1. He found his homework under the bed.
2. They were happy at school.
3. She didn't like the app.
4. Max studied every day.
5. The book wasn't useful.
6. We didn't see our maths teacher.

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete the conversation with the past simple form of the verbs in brackets.

Jake: Hi, Emily _____ (not see) you at school this morning.

Emily: Oh hi, Jake. I _____ (arrive) after lunch.

Jake: Are you OK?

Emily: Oh yes, I _____ (be) at the dentist.

Jake: We _____ (have) a great history class. We _____ (make) a video.

Emily: Oh, I _____ (not hear) about that.

Jake: Yes, the teacher? _____ (give) us some information and then we _____ (write) a story.

Emily: That's cool!

Jake: We _____ (watch) other videos to get ideas

Emily: Brilliant! Does your video have any music?

Jake: Yes, I _____ (find) a great song.



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