

THE SIMPLE PAST

We use the Simple Past (or Past Simple) to talk about events, facts, or actions that started and finished in the past.

How to Form the Simple Past

Regular Verbs: We add **-ed** or **-d** to the base verb.

- bomb → **bombed** (*'Fascist forces bombed the village.'*)
- spark → **sparked** (*'The tragedy sparked a period of work.'*)
- produce → **produced** (*'Picasso produced a massive mural.'*)

Irregular Verbs: These verbs change completely. You must memorize them!

- be → **was** (singular) / **were** (plural)
- hold → **held** (*'A woman held a lamp.'*)
- catch → **caught** (*'Animals were caught in the chaos.'*)

Questions & Negatives: We use the helper verb **did** / **did not (didn't)** + standard verb.

- Negative: Picasso **did not paint** with bright colors.
- Question: **Did** he paint a horse? Yes, he **did**.