

## Present Simple vs Past Simple



### Quiz Time

In pairs, complete the sentences and answer the quiz. Compare your answers with the rest of the class.

- 1 ☐ He ..... (star) in the Harry Potter films.
- 2 ☐ He ..... (discover) penicillin.
- 3 ☐ Leonardo Da Vinci ..... (paint) this famous painting.
- 4 ☐ They ..... (design) the Parthenon.
- 5 ☐ He ..... (write) *Romeo & Juliet*.
- 6 ☐ She ..... (be) the daughter of King Henry VIII.
- 7 ☐ This country ..... (win) the World Cup in 2006.
- 8 ☐ She ..... (invent) the Barbie doll.

- a Queen Elizabeth I
- b Ruth Handler
- c Italy
- d Shakespeare
- e *The Mona Lisa*
- f Iktinos and Kallikrates
- g Alexander Fleming
- h Daniel Radcliffe

### Present Simple vs Past Simple

We use the present simple for permanent states and repeated or habitual actions.

Tom is a student. He goes to school every day.  
He usually goes to school by bus.

Time expressions used with the present simple:

every day / week / month / year, usually, often, always, rarely, never, sometimes, in the morning / evening / afternoon, at night, etc.

We use the past simple for actions which finished at a stated time in the past.

He bought a new car last week.

Time expressions used with the past simple:

yesterday, then, when, last night / week / month / year, a week / month / year ago, two days ago, in 2003, etc.

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Circle the correct item.

- 1 Dad **doesn't buy** / **didn't buy** a new car last week.
- 2 Mum always **cooks** / **cooked** chicken on Mondays.
- 3 Do you **like** / **liked** chips?
- 4 Mary **leaves** / **left** for Italy last month.
- 5 Do you **brush** / **brushed** your teeth every night?
- 6 The boys **don't play** / **didn't play** football last Sunday.
- 7 Did Emily **come** / **came** to the party?
- 8 I **don't watch** / **didn't watch** TV last night.




## Present Simple vs Past Simple

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9 Write what Edward usually does and what he *did* yesterday.

1




- finish / work / 3:30 pm
- finish / work / 2:00 pm

2



- go / home / by train
- go / home / by taxi

3



- eat / dinner / home
- eat / dinner / restaurant

4



- go / bed / early
- go / bed / late

1 Edward usually finishes work at 3:30 pm. but yesterday, he finished work at 2:00 pm.

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

10 Put the verbs in brackets into the *present simple* or the *past simple*.

1 We ..... *went* ..... (go) to the beach last weekend.

2 ..... (your mum/make) a chocolate cake yesterday?

3 Dad ..... (not/work) on Sundays.

4 He ..... (not/come) to the party last Saturday.

5 My cousins ..... (not/visit) us every weekend.

6 ..... (Julia/wear) jeans to school yesterday?

7 The children always ..... (do) their homework in their rooms.

8 I ..... (send) Claire an email yesterday afternoon.

11 Complete the sentences with the time expressions from the list.

at the moment      always      yesterday      last night      every week      last summer

1 We watched a really good film at the cinema ..... *last night* .....

2 I went to a beautiful exotic island ..... The weather was very hot.

3 My mother does the shopping .....

4 I am working ..... I can't come with you.

5 She ..... brushes her teeth before she goes to bed at night.

6 He is upset because he failed his driving test .....

10 Put the verbs in brackets into the *present simple* or the *past simple*.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 We ..... <i>went</i> ..... (go) to the beach last weekend. | 5 My cousins ..... (not/visit) us every weekend.                |
| 2 ..... (your mum/make) a chocolate cake yesterday?          | 6 ..... (Julia/wear) jeans to school yesterday?                 |
| 3 Dad ..... (not/work) on Sundays.                           | 7 The children always ..... (do) their homework in their rooms. |
| 4 He ..... (not/come) to the party last Saturday.            | 8 I ..... (send) Claire an email yesterday afternoon.           |

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## Present Simple vs Past Simple

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Put the verbs in brackets into the *present simple* or the *past simple*.

- 1 A: .... *Did you enjoy* .... (you / enjoy) the film last night?  
B: No, I .... *didn't* .... It .... *was* .... (be) a horror film.
- 2 A: ..... (you/go) to work yesterday?  
B: No, I ..... I ..... (never/work) on Saturdays.
- 3 A: ..... (you/see) Charles yesterday?  
B: Yes. We ..... (have) lunch together.
- 4 A: ..... (Colin/work) at a bank?  
B: No, he ..... He ..... (work) at a post office.
- 5 A: What time ..... (you start) school every day?  
B: Eight o'clock. But yesterday we ..... (start) at eight thirty.
- 6 A: What ..... (you/do) at weekends?  
B: We usually ..... (go) to the beach.
- 7 A: ..... (you/do) anything exciting last Saturday?  
B: No, not really. I ..... (watch) TV and ..... (read) a book.  
It was a boring weekend.

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Read the conversation between Ling and Amy. Then put the verbs in brackets into the *present simple* or the *past simple*.

Ling: Hi Amy. 1) .... *Were you* .... (you/be) at home last weekend?

Amy: No, I 2) ..... (not/be). My family and I  
3) ..... (go) to the beach. We often  
4) ..... (go) to the beach at weekends.

Ling: You're lucky. 5) ..... (you/have) a nice time?

Amy: Oh, yes! I 6) ..... (have) a great time!

Ling: Where 7) ..... (you/stay)?

Amy: We 8) ..... (stay) at my grandparents' house.

Ling: Oh. 9) ..... (they/live) near the beach?

Amy: Yes, they do. Their house 10) ..... (be) right by the beach.

Ling: Wow! That's cool. And what did you do there?

Amy: We 11) ..... (walk) along the beach and 12) .....  
(swim) in the sea.

Ling: That sounds like a lot of fun.

