

- Past time: past simple, past continuous, past perfect simple, past perfect continuous, would, used to / be/get used to

**Past simple**

<b>Form</b>	statement: I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>played</b> ... negative: I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>didn't play</b> ... question: <b>Did</b> I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>play</b> ...?	Note: Irregular verbs do not take 'ed' in the past simple. Learn the past simple form of irregular verbs. See page 194.
<b>Use</b>	<b>Example</b>	
Single completed actions	Tom and I <b>played</b> a game of chess and he <b>won</b> .	
Habits in the past	<b>Did</b> you <b>collect</b> stamps when you were younger?	
Permanent situations in the past	A famous footballer <b>lived</b> in our house before we bought it.	
General truths and facts about the past	Crosswords <b>didn't become</b> popular until the 1930s.	
The main events in a story	The referee <b>blew</b> the whistle and Simon <b>passed</b> the ball to James, who <b>ran</b> towards the goal.	



- We can also use *did* in past simple statements for emphasis.
  - ✓ 'Why **didn't** you win your match yesterday?' 'I **did** win. Who told you I **didn't**?'
  - ✓ We lost 5-0 but at least we **did get** into the final.

**Past continuous**

<b>Form</b>	statement: I/he/she/it <b>was playing</b> ... negative: I/he/she/it <b>wasn't playing</b> ... question: <b>Was</b> I/he/she/it <b>playing</b> ...?	You/we/they <b>were playing</b> ... You/we/they <b>weren't playing</b> ... <b>Were</b> you/we/they <b>playing</b> ...?
<b>Use</b>	<b>Example</b>	
Actions happening at a particular moment in the past	At five o'clock, I <b>was reading</b> my new book.	
Temporary situations in the past	Greg <b>was living</b> in London at the time.	
Annoying past habits (usually with <i>always</i> )	When we were young, my brother <b>was always borrowing</b> my toys.	
Actions in progress over a period of time	Daniel <b>was playing</b> video games all morning yesterday.	
Two actions in progress at the same time	<b>Were</b> Ulla and her friends <b>playing</b> Monopoly while we <b>were playing</b> Draughts?	
Background information in a story	The sun <b>was shining</b> and the birds <b>were singing</b> . Lisa opened the window and looked out.	



- When one action in the past interrupts another action in progress, we use the past simple and the past continuous together.
  - ✓ I **was playing** on my computer when it suddenly **crashed**.
- We do **not** use the past continuous for regular or repeated actions in the past.
  - ✓ When we were on holiday, we **played** volleyball every day.
  - ✗ When we were on holiday, we **were playing** volleyball every day.
- We do not usually use stative verbs in continuous tenses. See Unit 1, page 7.

**Past perfect simple**

<b>Form</b>	<i>had</i> + past participle	
<b>Use</b>	<b>Example</b>	
Situations and states before the past	We'd <b>lived</b> next to the gym for a couple of months before I decided to join.	
Completed actions before a moment in the past	I'd <b>already bought</b> the computer game when I saw it was cheaper in another shop.	
Completed actions where the important thing is the result at a moment in the past	We <b>didn't feel</b> like playing Scrabble because we <b>had just finished</b> a long game of Monopoly.	



- There is often little or no difference in meaning between the past perfect simple and the past simple.
  - ✓ *We'd lived next to the gym for a couple of months before I decided to join.*
  - ✓ *We lived next to the gym for a couple of months before I decided to join.*
- After we have used the past perfect simple once, we often then use the past simple instead of continuing to use the past perfect. *I had already had one flying lesson, which was great fun, and I knew immediately that I wanted to get my pilot's licence.*
- Phrases such as *It was the first/second/etc time ...* are followed by the past perfect simple.
  - ✓ *It was the second time I'd been on a plane.*

### Past perfect continuous

<b>Form</b>	statement: I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>had been playing</b> ...
	negative: I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>hadn't been playing</b> ...
	question: <b>Had</b> I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>been playing</b> ...?
<b>Use</b>	<b>Example</b>
Actions continuing up to a moment in the past	<i>When you saw us, we <b>had been running</b> for six miles – and we still had a mile to go!</i>
Actions stopping just before a moment in the past	<i>Sarah looked tired because she <b>had been exercising</b> all morning.</i>

### would

<b>Form</b>	would + bare infinitive
<b>Use</b>	<b>Example</b>
Past habits, particularly for the distant past	<i>When I was very young, my grandfather <b>would</b> take me to the park to play.</i>



- We don't often use *would* in questions or negative statements with this meaning. In negative statements, we can use *would never*.
  - ✓ *We **would never** play games together as a family when I was growing up.*

### used to

<b>Form</b>	used to + bare infinitive
	statement: I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>used to</b> train three times a week.
	negative: I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>didn't use to</b> be good at football.
	I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>never used to</b> be so good at football.
	I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>used not to</b> be good at football.
	question: <b>Did</b> I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>use to</b> play hockey here?
<b>Use</b>	<b>Example</b>
Past habits and states, particularly for the distant past	<i>My mother <b>used to</b> play a lot of squash before I was born.</i>



- To talk about a past state, we can use *used to*, but **not** *would*.
  - ✓ *We **used to** have a house that was right next to the park.*
  - ✗ *We **would** have a house that was right next to the park.*

### be/get used to

<b>Form</b>	be/get used to + -ing form / noun
<b>Use</b>	<b>Example</b>
A situation that is familiar or no longer strange	<i>I didn't like being the goalkeeper at first but now I'm <b>used to</b> it.</i>



- When we want to talk about the process of becoming familiar with something, we use *get used to*.
  - ✓ *I'm gradually **getting used to** being in a new team.*

**D** Complete using the past perfect simple or past perfect continuous of the verbs in the box. You may need to use a negative form.

eat • stay • wait • know • write • see • listen • get • have • run

- 1 By the time he died, Beethoven ..... nine symphonies.
- 2 We chose the Hotel Rio because we ..... there before.
- 3 We ..... for over an hour when the train finally arrived.
- 4 I was completely out of breath because I .....
- 5 I ..... the film before, so I knew how it ended.
- 6 When he got married, I ..... Chris for about two years.
- 7 Johnson ..... ready for the race for six months and finally the big moment came.
- 8 Vivian ..... computer lessons for very long so she wasn't sure how to use the Internet.
- 9 Holly ..... oysters before, so she wasn't sure what to do with them.
- 10 I ..... to my new CD for a few minutes when the CD player started making a funny noise.

**E** Choose the correct answer.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 My brother and I ..... swimming almost every day last summer.<br/>A went<br/>B had been going<br/>C were going<br/>D had gone</li> <li>2 We ..... when someone knocked at the door.<br/>A talked<br/>B had talked<br/>C were talking<br/>D were talked</li> <li>3 When the robbery happened, the security guard ..... !<br/>A slept<br/>B was sleeping<br/>C had slept<br/>D was slept</li> <li>4 Jack ..... chess before so I showed him what to do.<br/>A hadn't been playing<br/>B didn't play<br/>C wasn't playing<br/>D hadn't played</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 I wasn't sure how Belinda would react because I ..... her long.<br/>A didn't know<br/>B wasn't knowing<br/>C hadn't been knowing<br/>D hadn't known</li> <li>6 Ian ..... at the factory long when he was made a manager.<br/>A hadn't been working<br/>B wasn't working<br/>C didn't work<br/>D wasn't worked</li> <li>7 I wanted to say goodbye to Jerry, but he .....<br/>A was already left<br/>B already left<br/>C had already been leaving<br/>D had already left</li> <li>8 When we got to the airport, I realised I ..... my passport at home!<br/>A was left<br/>B had left<br/>C left<br/>D had been leaving</li> </ol> |
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**A** Circle the correct word or phrase.

- 1 I **saw** / **was seeing** Maria for the first time at Ray's birthday party.
- 2 Richard **watched** / **was watching** TV when the phone rang.
- 3 When we were on holiday, we **went** / **were going** to the café almost every day.
- 4 Denise **practised** / **was practising** the song every day until she could sing it perfectly.
- 5 The phone was engaged when I called. Who **did you talk** / **were you talking to**?
- 6 Mr Connors **owned** / **was owning** two houses and a villa in the south of France.
- 7 I **did** / **was doing** my homework as soon as I got home from school.
- 8 A car came round the corner and I **jumped** / **was jumping** out of the way.
- 9 When my dad met my mum, he **worked** / **was working** as a bus driver.
- 10 I **got** / **was getting** up at six o'clock every morning last week!
- 11 My cousin and I **played** / **were playing** on the computer when there was a power cut.
- 12 No, that's not right. I **did pass** / **was passing** the test. I got a B.

**B** Complete using the correct form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 Where ..... (you / go) when I saw you on the bus last night?
- 2 ..... (you / enjoy) the film?
- 3 When we shared a room, Zoë ..... (always / take) my things. It was so annoying!
- 4 When I went to get the tickets, I realised I ..... (not / have) any money.
- 5 When I was young, we ..... (go) to France every year on holiday.
- 6 Elvis ..... (become) famous for the song *Blue Suede Shoes*.
- 7 When you rang last night, I ..... (work) in the garden so I didn't hear the phone.
- 8 I ..... (hear) from Davina last night. She says hello.
- 9 The old man ..... (appear) to be very tired and he slowly sat down.
- 10 We ..... (throw) a surprise party for my brother last Saturday.

**J** Write one word in each gap.

*The night before*

Jane lay awake. She had (1) ..... preparing for the next day (2) ..... a long time and now she couldn't sleep. Her team (3) ..... playing the local champions at water polo in the final and Jane was the captain. She (4) ..... feeling the pressure.

She turned over and remembered how she (5) ..... learned to swim. Her father had taught her. They (6) ..... go to the local pool every day after school and her father (7) ..... to show her what to do. She hadn't liked the water at first, but she soon (8) ..... used to it. She learned quickly and joined the water polo team. She had (9) ..... their youngest member!

She quickly got used to scoring goals and (10) ..... under pressure, but tomorrow was different. It was the biggest match of her life. She closed her eyes again and tried to get to sleep. 'I (11) ..... used to have problems sleeping,' she thought to herself. 'But then again, I didn't (12) ..... to be the captain of the team.' She watched the clock change slowly and knew that it was going to be a long night.