

# Past Simple

or

# Past Continuous?

G3 - AT5

Use **Past Simple** to talk about single actions, permanent situations and habits in the past

YESTERDAY  
IN 2005  
A LONG TIME AGO



Use **Past Continuous** to talk about actions in progress, temporary and changing situations in the past.

At this time yesterday  
At 5 o'clock last Sunday  
while

Form:

(+) + verb in the past

(-) + didn't + infinitive verb

(?) Did + infinitive verb...?

\*emphatic past: + did + infinitive verb

Form:

(+) + was/were + ing form

(-) + wasn't/weren't + ing form

(?) Was/Were + + ing form...?

I read a book yesterday.

I met Sally.

I was reading a book at 3 o'clock

I met her while I was visiting

when + past simple  
while + past continuous



Put the verbs in brackets into the correct Past tense, Simple or Continuous:

★ The teacher .....(not come) to school last week because she .....(be) ill.

★ Someone .....(break) the window while I .....(sleep).

★ When mother .....(enter) the room she .....(see) that the little boy .....(cry).

★ While Mary .....(read) last night, her father .....(watch) his favourite TV programme.

★ They .....(not arrive) on time last class because they .....(miss) the bus.

★ What .....(do) you .....(do) when the accident .....(happen)?

★ I .....(meet) many nice people while I .....(study) in Paris.

★ She .....(live) in Bucharest in the summer of 2019.

★ We .....(tell) her that she .....(be) too young to fly alone.

★ Thomas .....(do) his homework at 6 o'clock yesterday evening.

★ A: Ann, you didn't visit grandma last Sunday.  
B: That's not true. I .....(visit) her, but she wasn't at home. (emphatic past)

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**Choose the correct form of the verb:**

- I (1) **didn't see/wasn't seeing** them yesterday morning while I (2) **walked/was walking** down the street. Later they (3) **told/were telling** me that they (4) **slept/were sleeping** and that was the reason why we (5) **didn't meet/weren't meeting**.
- Sarah (6) **drove/was driving** home when the accident (7) **took/was taking** place. She (8) **got/was getting** scared but then she (9) **found out/was finding out** that nobody was hurt.
- What (10) **did you do/were you doing** when I (11) **called / was calling** at your door? (12) **Did you sleep/Were you sleeping** or (13) **did you watch/were you watching** TV? Your sister told me that you (14) **played/were playing** in the garden but I (15) **didn't believe/wasn't believing** her.

Use USED TO to talk about things you did in the past but don't do now, or things you didn't do in the past but you do now.

I used to like running when I was a child (I don't any more)

Forms:

(+) + used to + infinitive verb  
(-) + didn't use to + infinitive verb  
(?) Did + + use to + infinitive verb...?

G3 - AT5



**Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form of Used to**

- When I was a child, my mum \_\_\_\_\_ (use-read) to me every night.
- At primary school I \_\_\_\_\_ (not-use-like) maths.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (you-use-wear) a school uniform?
- My sister \_\_\_\_\_ (use-be) shorter than me but now she's a lot taller.
- We \_\_\_\_\_ (use-live) in a flat, but now we live in a terraced house.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ (not-use-make) my bed every day when I was a kid because my mum \_\_\_\_\_ (use-make) it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (your dad-use-work) at the weekend?