

## 8C Simple past: regular verbs and past time expressions

We use the simple past to talk about completed actions and situations in the past.

With regular verbs, we usually add **-ed** to the base form of the verb.

*My brother worked as a waiter in London for two years.*

*In the past, children played with traditional toys.*

*My brother wanted a bike for his birthday.*

*I finished my exams last month.*

### Spelling rules for regular affirmative simple past -ed endings

We usually add **-ed** to the verb.

*work*  $\Rightarrow$  *worked*   *watch*  $\Rightarrow$  *watched*

When a verb ends in **e**, we add **-d**.

*dance*  $\Rightarrow$  *danced*   *live*  $\Rightarrow$  *lived*

When a verb ends in consonant + **y**, we change the **y** to **i** and then we add **-ed**.

*study*  $\Rightarrow$  *studied*   *try*  $\Rightarrow$  *tried*

When a verb ends in vowel + **y**, we add **-ed**.

*play*  $\Rightarrow$  *played*   *enjoy*  $\Rightarrow$  *enjoyed*

When a verb ends in consonant + vowel + consonant, we usually double the final consonant and add **-ed**.

*stop*  $\Rightarrow$  *stopped*   *plan*  $\Rightarrow$  *planned*

We make the negative form of regular verbs with *didn't* + base form.

### 8.12 I / you / he / she / it / we / they

I **enjoyed** the meal.

I **didn't enjoy** the movie last night.

We **watched** the movie together.

We **didn't watch** TV.

## Past time expressions

We often use past time expressions with the simple past to say when an action or situation happened.

*I played tennis last week.*

*I played tennis yesterday morning.*

*I moved to Spain seven years ago.*

*In the 1920s, clothes were very different from now.*

last	evening/night/week/month/year/spring/summer/fall/winter
yesterday	morning/afternoon/evening
two days	
three weeks	
five years	ago
in	1990/the 1930s/the 18th century

**Look!** We can say either "yesterday evening" or "last evening."

1 Complete the sentences with the verbs in the box. Use affirmative simple past forms.

enjoy live play work listen watch  
study want

- 1 In his last job, Tony \_\_\_\_\_ at a bank.
- 2 We \_\_\_\_\_ to the news on the radio.
- 3 She \_\_\_\_\_ in Berlin in a great apartment.
- 4 Lena \_\_\_\_\_ to go out, but her friends were busy.
- 5 They \_\_\_\_\_ tennis in the park yesterday.
- 6 My parents \_\_\_\_\_ a movie online last night.
- 7 I \_\_\_\_\_ reading my new book on the weekend.
- 8 I \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish in Mexico a few years ago.

2 Complete the sentences with *yesterday*, *last*, *ago*, or *in*.

- 1 Emma called me \_\_\_\_\_ morning.
- 2 Cameron stayed with us \_\_\_\_\_ night.
- 3 I read four books on vacation \_\_\_\_\_ summer.
- 4 We moved to Chicago eight years \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 My dad opened a restaurant \_\_\_\_\_ the 1980s.
- 6 We watched a terrible movie on TV \_\_\_\_\_ afternoon.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ 1969, a person walked on the moon for the first time.
- 8 Carmen finished college four months \_\_\_\_\_.

3 Write sentences. Use the simple past and complete the time expressions.



1 I / visit / China / 2013

2 my family / live / in Australia / 1970s

3 Lucas / not finish / his homework / night

4 Sam and Ellie / celebrate / Sam's birthday / at a restaurant / two days

5 the 1990s / a lot of people / listen to / dance music

6 my brother / not want / to go to the movies / night