

## Skill: Reading

Objective: Students will read an article written in the past simple tense, identify and categorize regular and irregular verbs, and answer true or false comprehension questions to demonstrate understanding of the text.

# ASTRODYNAMICIST MORIBA JAH

Read the article about the National Geographic Explorer Moriba Jah, complete the table identifying regular and irregular verbs. **Look at the example at least 12**

National Geographic Explorer Moriba Jah is an astrodynamacist who specializes in identifying and tracking debris in space. He hopes to engage a wide audience about the interconnectedness of all things, inspiring people to embrace their roles as stewards and custodians of the planet and environment.



Figure 5 Moriba Jah

### Early Interest in The Work

"I **became** interested in understanding stuff orbiting Earth after high school. **enlisted** in the U.S. Air Force and my job was to be a security policeman guarding nuclear missiles in Montana at Malmstrom Air Force Base. I grew up in Caracas, Venezuela, so a big city, lots of lights at night, and because of that, I'd never been exposed to a very dark sky before in my life... So I had no idea what space really looked like. It was amazing. For a moment, it made me think: This is what our ancestors experienced when it got dark because they didn't have city lights. The sky is jammed packed with dots of light. I felt very unalone at that moment. "Different from what our ancestors experienced, you could see planes go by every once in awhile and there were other dots of light that moved much faster than planes but slower than meteors or shooting stars. I wondered what these things were. It turned out that these things were human-made objects orbiting Earth that were reflecting sunlight in my direction. That got me curious to study astrodynamics, which is the science that studies motion of stuff in space.

"I went to college to study astrodynamics through aerospace engineering and my studies led me to land a job with NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab. I worked on Mars missions, which was pretty cool. I did that for about five or six years, then I relocated with my family to Maui and worked for the Air Force Research Lab on Maui. They had telescopes on top of Mt. Haleakala. It wasn't until then that I had another oh-my-God moment.

Regular Verbs	Irregular verbs
e.g <i>Enlisted</i>	e.g <i>Became</i>

**REMEMBER: PAST SIMPLE**

We use the past tense to talk about:

something that happened **once in the past**

We **went** to Spain for our holidays. (affirmative) (**irregular verb**)

We **didn't go** to Spain for our holidays. (negative)

**Did we go** to Spain for our holidays. (question)

something that happened **several times in the past**

When I was a boy, I **walked** a mile to school every day. (**regular verb**)



**2. READ the text again and answer the next TRUE or False questions. Put tick**

**TRUE FALSE**

- The author's initial interest in space began while they were working at the U.S. Air Force Base in Montana.
- The author grew up in a small town with very dark skies, which made their experience of seeing the night sky in Montana more remarkable.
- The author initially thought that the moving dots of light in the sky were meteors or shooting stars.
- The author studied astrodynamics through aerospace engineering in college and later worked on Mars missions at NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab.
- After working at NASA, the author relocated to Maui and continued their work at the Air Force Research Lab on Mt. Haleakala.

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Skill: Use of English

Objective: Students will practice using the past simple tense by completing a detective-themed story where they solve a mystery.

## Detective Story: The Missing Music Video

### Case File: The Missing Music Video



Figure 1 Peso Pluma



Figure 2 Mr Beast

### Fill the blanks to complete the case

Last Friday, a high-profile music video featuring the famous singer Peso Pluma (disappear) \_\_\_\_\_ from the set. Mrs. Beast, a popular YouTuber who (come) \_\_\_\_\_ to film behind-the-scenes footage, (notice) \_\_\_\_\_ that something was wrong. She (see) \_\_\_\_\_ that the video equipment (be) \_\_\_\_\_ missing. Mrs. Beast (immediately) \_\_\_\_\_ contact Peso Pluma, who (be) \_\_\_\_\_ very worried. They both (decide) \_\_\_\_\_ to investigate the situation together. Mrs. Beast (search) \_\_\_\_\_ the set for clues while Peso Pluma (interview) \_\_\_\_\_ the crew members.

After some investigation, Mrs. Beast (find) \_\_\_\_\_ a suspicious note in the control room. The note (say) \_\_\_\_\_ - that someone (take) \_\_\_\_\_ the equipment because they (want) \_\_\_\_\_ to stop the video release. Peso Pluma and Mrs. Beast (work) \_\_\_\_\_ - together to track down the culprit.

Eventually, they (discover) \_\_\_\_\_ that the equipment (be) \_\_\_\_\_ hidden in a storage room by a jealous rival who (not want) \_\_\_\_\_ Peso Pluma to succeed. The equipment (return) \_\_\_\_\_ to the set, and the music video (finish) \_\_\_\_\_ on time.

Skill: Writing

Objective: Students will practice using the past simple tense by writing their own detective story. They will demonstrate their understanding of regular and irregular verbs, apply creative thinking, and develop their narrative skills.

**Now is your turn: Write your own detective story. You should use the past simple tense to describe events and actions. Look at the context, using the pictures. At least: 80 words.**

Detective Case Scenario:

Title: The Stolen Trophy at La Casa de los Famosos



Figure 3 Kylian Mbappé

***This is EMBAPPE  
A FAMOUS SOCCER PLAYER***

**La Casa de los  
Famosos  
MÉXICO**

Figure 4 La casa de los famosos



Last Friday, a high-profile music video featuring the famous singer Peso Pluma...



**Ask your partner next questions about her/his story to complete your chart.**

**“What was stolen or missing in your story?”**

**“Who did the detective first question?”**

**“Where did the detective find a key clue?”**

**“Who was the main suspect in your story?”**

**“How did the detective solve the case?”**

Skill: Speaking

Objective: Students will practice using the past simple tense by listening to a story about a time traveller who visits different historical periods.

You are going to listen to story about a time traveller who visits different historical periods. Complete the timeline with the missing words.

"A Day in the Life of a Time Traveler"



**Marketplace in Ancient Greece:**

**Details: Merchants were selling \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and pottety; there was a lot of noise from people and blacksmiths.**



**Knights Practicing in the Middle Ages:**

**Details: The village was preparing for the \_\_\_\_\_, and Alex tasted medieval \_\_\_\_\_**



**Dinner Party in an 18<sup>th</sup> Century Palace:**

**Details: Alex \_\_\_\_\_ a grand palace in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and observes a lively \_\_\_\_\_**



**Festival Preparation in the Middle Ages:**

**Details: Villagers were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with various tasks; children ran around.**

Resources:

*Astrodynamicist Moriba Jah.* (s. f.).

<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/moriba-jah/>

Figure 1: (Youtube, Canaladaar,2022)

Figure 2: (Billboard, 2023)

Figure 3: (Hangs, 2021)

Figure 4: (Redacción, 2024)