2 A school play

The past simple (1): *be*, *have* and regular verbs
Past time expressions

The past simple: **be**, **have** and regular verbs



When we form the past simple, we add **-ed** or **-d** to most regular verbs. Here are some more rules:

Verb	Example	Change	Past simple	Negative
ends vowel + consonant	stop	double the last consonant + **-ed**	stop**ped**	**didn't stop**
ends consonant + -y	tidy	~~-y~~ + **-ied**	tid**ied**	**didn't tidy**
irregular verbs	be have	–	**was/were** **had**	**wasn't/weren't** **didn't have**

In questions we change the word order.
***Did** Molly **act** in the play?*

Be is different.
***Were** you **excited**? **Was** the play **good**?*

1 Circle the correct answer.

1 There **was** / **were** a piano on the stage.
2 Ethan's voice **weren't** / **wasn't** very loud.
3 We **were** / **was** excited about the concert.
4 Why **was** / **were** Anna and Kate tired?
5 **Was** / **Were** you at home?
6 All our friends **were** / **was** in the audience.
7 Leo and Seb **wasn't** / **weren't** at the concert.
8 What **was** / **were** the name of the play?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Complete Harry's diary. Write was, were or had.

We [1] had a school play this week. Charlie [2] _____ in it and our friends and family [3] _____ in the audience. Last week, we [4] _____ a concert at school. Mum and Dad [5] _____ there, but our friends [6] _____.

Everyone [7] _____ a programme about the concert. Molly played the piano, and her friends Suzy and Jane recorders. It [8] _____ very good, but Molly, Suzy and Jane [10] _____ all very tired at the end.

3 Complete the sentences and questions. Use the past simple of be or have.

1 Phil's very happy because the exam wasn't very difficult.
2 I'm very hungry. I _____ breakfast.
3 _____ Louise _____ cake at the café?
4 The people in the audience _____ a great time.
5 He _____ ten yesterday.
6 _____ you at Emily's birthday party?
7 My grandparents _____ rich. They lived in a very small house.
8 I _____ a baby when we moved to London.
9 _____ the film good? Did you like it?
10 The homework _____ hard. We all got good marks.

4 Complete the text. Use the past simple of the verbs in brackets.

It [1] was (be) George's birthday party on Friday. We [2] _____ (have) a great time. George [3] _____ (invite) all his friends and everyone [4] _____ (enjoy) it. The lights [5] _____ (sparkle), we [6] _____ (listen) to music and [7] _____ (dance) all evening. We and [8] _____ (play) games. I [9] _____ (clap) when George [10] _____ (open) his presents. We all [11] _____ (tidy) up when the party [12] _____ (end) and I [13] _____ (not want) to go home!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Past time expressions



We use these expressions to talk about when something happened in the past:

last + night / Friday / week / month / year	*I watched a good film **last Saturday**.*
ago after a period of time	*We went to London **three years ago**.*
yesterday + morning / afternoon / evening	*I emailed her **yesterday evening**.*

Time expressions can go at the beginning or end of a sentence.
*I played in a concert **last week**.* ***Last week**, I played in a concert.*

5 Tick (✓) the correct sentences.

1 Last week, Jane had a party. ☑
Jane had a party week last. ☐

2 Ago two weeks it was my birthday. ☐
Two weeks ago it was my birthday. ☐

3 Frank's birthday was yesterday. ☐
Yesterday Frank's birthday was. ☐

4 We had yesterday a big party. ☐
We had a big party yesterday. ☐

5 Tina had dinner evening yesterday. ☐
Tina had dinner yesterday evening. ☐

6 We played tennis ago two hours. ☐
We played tennis two hours ago. ☐

7 I had an exam yesterday afternoon. ☐
I had an exam last afternoon. ☐

8 I phoned you a Friday ago. ☐
I phoned you last Friday. ☐

LIVEWORKSHEETS

6 Complete the sentences. Use the verb in brackets and a time expression from the box. Then rewrite each sentence with the time expression at the end.

Today is Saturday 15th November.

~~Last Saturday~~	Last month	Yesterday evening
Last Monday	Yesterday	Last Thursday

1 

Last Saturday, Clare played (play) tennis.
Clare played tennis last Saturday.

2 

_____, it _____ (be) my birthday.
_____

3 

_____, Jason _____ (play) badminton with Henry.
_____

4 

_____, I _____ (tidy) my room.
_____

5 

_____, we _____ (watch) a play at the theatre.
_____

6 

_____, Dad _____ (phone) Roger.
_____

7 Look at the things that happened in exercise 6. Write when they happened. Use time expressions with ago and the words from the box.

Remember, today is Saturday 15th November. It is 9 a.m.

~~one week~~	fourteen hours	two days	five days	a month	a day

1 one week ago
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____
6 _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS