Past Simple

Rules and Examples:

Used to describe actions that happened in the past.

- He **broke** his tooth last week.
- Yesterday they all **worked** very hard in the garden.
- She **asked** her mother for some money.
- Mary **danced** and **sang** all night.

Examples of typical time expressions:

- Yesterday I **went** to the shops with my mother.
- On Friday I **finished** work early.
- 4 years ago I **lived** in London.
- In 1974 I **wrote** my final exams.
- When I was young I **wore** mini-skirts.
- Last year I **stopped** working at the bank.

Put the following verbs into the past simple tense.

1. Inspector Granger (arrive) at about 9.00. He (is) a tall man with a big black moustache.

2. Amanda, Barbara, Claudia and Gordon (are) in the living room. The inspector (come) in.

3. "Mr Travers (die) between midnight last night and seven o'clock this morning," he (say).

4. Somebody in this room (kill) him.

5. He (look) at them one by one, but nobody (speak).

6. Amanda Travers (follow) the inspector into the library and they (sit) down.

Regular Verbs

The *past simple* and *past participle* of regular verbs add **-ed**:
clean - clean**ed**
live - liv**ed**
paint - paint**ed**
start - start**ed**

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Irregular Verbs

The simple past and past participle of irregular verbs can end in a variety of ways, with no consistent pattern. Sometimes they remain unchanged.

drive - drove
put – put
feel - felt
buy - bought

Write the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. Inspector Granger (think) Jeremy Travers was murdered between midnight and 7.00 am.
2. Amanda Travers (go) for a walk in the garden.
3. Then she (get) into bed and (read) for half an hour.
4. She (hear) Jeremy's bedroom door open.
5. She (think) it was Jeremy.
6. She (get) up at 7.15 the next morning.
7. She (have) breakfast at 8.00
8. She (take) her husband a cup of tea.
9. She (find) him in bed – dead!

Write the past tense of the verbs in the table below:

Simple Present	Simple Past	Past Participle
blow		
do		
bring		
build		
write		
drink		
catch		

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