Grammar 2

Quick Notes

3 Past Simple and Past Continuous

Past simple tense is used to talk about activities done in the past and habits. Past continuous tense is used to describe an unfinished action in the past or ongoing action that began in the past.

1. Simple past tense
   Past simple is formed by adding '-d, -ed, -ied' to the verbs depending on the verbs form.
2. Past continuous tense
   Singular subject and pronoun 'I' use 'was' + verb + ing. Plural subject and pronoun 'You' use 'were' + verb + ing.
3. Irregular verb change completely or slightly but unchanged verb does not change at all.
4. Add 'not' after verbs to make negative sentence. For affirmative sentence, do not use 'not'.

Examples:

(a) hope - hoped (regular + d)
(b) walk - walked (regular + ed)
(c) cry - cried (regular + ied)

(a) I was eating that cookie.
(b) She was practising violin.
(c) Fuad and I were fishing last night.
(d) We were laughing at the new comedy show.

(a) draw - drew/go - went/see - saw (irregular)
(b) put, read, hurt, quit, let, shut (unchanged)

(a) He did not read the note. (simple)
(b) We were not studying enough. (continuous)

Grammar Exercise

Fill in the blanks with the verbs in **simple past tense**.

1 When I _____ young I _____ to be a pilot. (be, want)
2 Dinosaurs _____ the Earth millions of years ago. (roam)
3 Columbus _____ America over 500 years ago. (discover)
4 He _____ out of the window and _____ that people were walking in the park. (look, see)
5 Jemima and Susie _____ to the restaurant and _____ a cup of coffee. (go, have)

Fill in the blanks with the verbs in **past continuous tense**.

1 Soft music _____ when I went into the room. (play)
2 Did you buy that shoes while I _____ after the children? (look)
3 It was peaceful and the birds _____. (sing)
4 Mom _____ in the bath when the phone rang. It stopped after a few rings. (lay)
5 It _____ when Sham came out of the shopping centre. (rain)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Grammar Test

Read the text below and correct the underlined errors.
For each question, write the correct word in the space provided.

Hello! My name is Gary Edenshaw and I am the Haida. I (0) am born at the Haida village of Skidegate, on Haida Gwaii, located 43 km off of the coast of British Columbia, Canada. My tribe is (1) know for our woodcarving. We make totem poles. I work with my uncle, Charles Edenshaw, who has been (2) teach me to carve totem poles since I was a young boy. This is the work I will do when I grow up. Totem poles are made from the tall trunks of cedar trees. Each (3) pictures carved on the pole is called a totem. Totems tell stories about people in the tribe. My uncle has taken nearly a year to carve this pole. Some of the animals he has carved on it are eagles, bears and frogs. (4) If we have finished the carving, we will paint it in bright colours. Our paintbrushes (5) is made of animal hairs pushed into a piece of wood. Before we paint, we rub the pole smooth with the skin of a shark. We will (6) used red, green, yellow, blue, black and purple paints. The red comes from berries mixed with oil and animal blood. The yellow comes from a fungus and the black from charcoal mixed with fish. We also use different coloured earth for (7) make paints. I cannot wait for the feast we will have when the pole is put up! We call this feast a potlatch. It lasts several days and visitors come from far and wide. Everyone wears (8) it best clothes. There is dancing and singing. We eat huge amounts of smoked salmon, venison, bear meat and cakes.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS