

Grammar Reference

Past simple (affirmative)

1.1 The affirmative form of the past simple is the same for all persons, singular and plural (*I, you, he, we, etc.*).

I watched a football match last night.

She watched TV. They watched a DVD.

1.2 Spelling: past simple (affirmative) form of regular verbs

We form the past simple (affirmative) form of regular verbs by adding *-ed*.

+ *-ed*: work → worked play → played

If the verb ends in *-e*, we add *-d*.

+ *-d*: dance → danced die → died

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

-y → *-ied*: study → studied cry → cried

If the verb ends in a short accented vowel + a consonant, we double the consonant and add *-ed*.

-p → *-pped*: drop → dropped

-n → *-nned*: plan → planned

-t → *-tted*: chat → chatted

1.3 Some verbs have irregular past simple (affirmative) forms. There are no spelling rules for these forms; you need to learn them by heart. See the list in the Workbook.

1.4 Past simple affirmative of *be*

The verb *be* has two past simple affirmative forms: *was* and *were*.

I	was	sad
you	were	
he / she / it	was	
we		
you	were	
they		

1.5 We use the past simple:

- for a completed action or event at a definite point in the past.

We played volleyball last Saturday.

- for actions or events that happened one after another.

Joanna got up, had a shower, got dressed and left the house.

Past simple (negative and interrogative)

1.6 In negative sentences and questions, we use *did* / *didn't* + the infinitive without *to* (NOT the past simple form) for regular and irregular verbs. The forms are the same for all persons, singular and plural (*I, you, he, we, etc.*).

Negative	Questions
I didn't watch	Did I watch?
he / she / it didn't watch	Did he / she / it watch?
we / you / they didn't watch	Did we / you / they watch?

Short form and full form	Short answers
didn't = did not	Yes, I did. / No, I didn't.

1.7 We don't use *did* or *didn't* for the past simple negative and question forms of *be* or *can*.

Negative	Questions and short answers
I / He / She / It wasn't happy.	Was I / he / she / it happy? Yes, I was. / No, she wasn't.
We / You / They weren't happy.	Were we / you / they happy? Yes, we were. / No, they weren't.

The forms of *could* are the same for all persons (*I, he, we, they, etc.*)

Negative	Questions and short answers
I / He / She / It / We / You / They couldn't see.	Could I / he / she / it / we / you / they see? Yes, I / he / we could. / No, she / you / they couldn't.

Question words

1.8 Examples of question words:

where who what which why when how what time how often how much / many how long / wide / tall

When a *Wh*-question includes a preposition, the preposition usually goes at the end.

Where are you from?

Who did you talk to?

What are you waiting for?

1 READING & LISTENING

- Read the title and the introduction to a story. Which of the four things do you think is the worst to lose when you're on holiday?
- Read the story sent by a reader to an online magazine. What did Stuart lose? Did he find it?
- Read the story again. Then cover it and correct the **bold** information.
 - Stuart went to the Alps with **his family**.
Stuart went to the Alps with his friends.
 - One day, they **went cycling**.
 - It took **three hours** to get to the top of the mountain.
 - They had a **snack** at the top of the mountain.
 - The view **wasn't very good**.
 - Stuart wanted to take another photo, but he couldn't find **his camera**.
 - He went back up the mountain with **one of his friends**.
 - They spent **an hour** looking for the phone.
 - It started to get **warmer**.
 - He found his phone in his **bag**.
 - His friends were **angry** about it.
- 2.1 Listen to a recording sent to the magazine. What did Marta lose? Did she find it?



- Listen to Marta's story again. Answer the questions.
 - When did it happen?
 - Where did Marta want to go on holiday? Why?
 - Why did she fly to Brussels?
 - What happened at the gate in Brussels airport?
 - How did she feel?
 - What did the policeman say?
 - Where did she fly in the end? What happened there?
- Have you ever lost anything important on holiday? What was it? What happened?

'Passport, tickets, money, phone'

It's the mantra we always say to ourselves when we go on holiday to make sure we haven't forgotten anything. But what happens when one of those things is suddenly missing? Email us your stories or send us a recording...



Last year, I went on holiday to the Alps with a group of friends. One day, we climbed a mountain – well, it wasn't really a climb, but it was a long walk – and it took about two hours to get to the top. When we got there, we had lunch. The view was amazing – we could see the sea in the distance. We took photos and just sat in the sun for a while.

Then we went down again, and when we got back to the car, I wanted to take another photo, but I couldn't find my phone – it wasn't in my bag. I thought 'Oh no! It's probably at the top of the mountain, where we had lunch.' I decided the only thing to do was to go back up the mountain to get it, because I didn't want to leave my phone up there. My friends said 'OK, but you can't go on your own', so in the end we all went up again, which was another two hours.

When we got to the top we spent about half an hour looking for the phone, but we couldn't find it anywhere. Then it started to get colder – it was now late afternoon – so I took my jacket out of my bag, and... my phone was in my jacket pocket!

I felt terrible, and really stupid! My friends were very nice about it, but they never let me forget it!

Stuart, from Exeter, UK

2 GRAMMAR past simple: regular and irregular verbs

- a Write the past simple form of these verbs. Are they regular or irregular? Check in Stuart's story.

go	_____	get	_____
climb	_____	want	_____
be	_____ / _____	think	_____
	_____	decide	_____
take	_____	say	_____
have	_____	spend	_____
can	_____	start	_____
sit	_____	feel	_____

- b Complete the negative verbs. Then check in Stuart's story.

- It _____ really a climb, but it was a long walk.
- I wanted to take another photo, but I _____ find my phone.
- I _____ want to leave my phone up there.

- c How do you make ☐ and ☐ in the past simple...?
• with was / were • with could • with other verbs

- d p.128 Grammar Bank 2A

3 PRONUNCIATION -ed endings

- a 2.3 Listen to three sentences from Marta's story in 1. What regular verb do you hear in each sentence?

- b 2.4 Listen and repeat the sounds and sentences.

	tie	I booked a hotel. We missed our flight.
	dog	I arrived at the airport. We phoned our friends.
/ɪd/		She invited us to stay. I needed a new passport.

Regular past simple verbs

The -ed ending is usually pronounced /ɪ/ or /ɪd/, e.g. booked, arrived.

We only pronounce the e in -ed when there is a t or a d before it, e.g. wanted, ended, -ed = /ɪd/.

- c Say the past simple of these verbs. In which ones is -ed pronounced /ɪd/?

ask call check decide happen live rent
start stop thank want

- d 2.5 Listen and check.

4 VOCABULARY holidays

- a In one minute, write down five things you like doing when you're on holiday, e.g. walking in the mountains, exploring a city, going to museums. Then compare with a partner.

- b p.152 Vocabulary Bank Holidays

5 SPEAKING

- a 2.9 Listen to four conversations. Complete the phrases that B uses to show that he / she is interested in what A is saying.

Useful language for showing interest

- A I went to New York last week.
B _____! Did you like it?
- A The weather was terrible – it rained every day.
B Oh _____! What a _____! What did you do?
- A We went to a show in the West End.
B _____! What show was it?
- A I lost my phone on the first day.
B _____? How _____! How did you lose it?

- b Listen again and repeat. Copy B's 'interested' intonation.

- c Look at Your last holiday. What are the questions?

Your last holiday

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Where / go? | 6 What / do during the day? |
| 2 When / go? | 7 What / do in the evening? |
| 3 Who / go with? | 8 / have a good time? |
| 4 Where / stay?
What / like? | 9 / have any problems? |
| 5 What / the weather like? | |

- d Think about your answers to the questions.

- e Work in pairs. Ask your partner about his / her last holiday. Show interest in what he / she says, and try to ask more questions. Then swap roles.



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GRAMMAR BANK

2A past simple: regular and irregular verbs

	regular	irregular
☐ +	We stayed at a hotel last summer.	I went to Turkey twice last year.
☐ -	He didn't stay with friends.	She didn't go to France.
☐ ?	Did you stay for the weekend?	Did you go to Madrid?
☒ ☒ X	Yes, I did .	No, we didn't .
Wh ☐ ?	Where did you stay ?	Why did you go ?

2.2

- We use *didn't* + infinitive for negatives and *Did...* + subject + infinitive for questions.
- Use **ASI** and **QuASI** to remember word order in questions. See **1A** p.126.

spelling rules for regular verbs

infinitive	past	spelling
work stay	worked stayed	add -ed
like	liked	add <i>d</i> if verb finishes in <i>e</i>
study	studied	<i>y</i> → <i>ied</i> after a consonant
stop	stopped	if verb finishes in consonant-vowel-consonant, double the final consonant

- We use the past simple to talk about finished actions that happened once or more than once in the past.
- The form of the past simple is the same for all persons.
- To make the past simple ☐ of regular verbs add -ed. See the spelling rules in the chart.
- Many common verbs are irregular in ☐ past simple, e.g. *go* → *went*, *see* → *saw*. See **Irregular verbs** p.164.

a Put the verbs in brackets in the past simple.

Two summers ago we had (have) a holiday in Scotland. We ¹ _____ (drive) there from London, but our car ² _____ (break) down on the motorway and we ³ _____ (spend) the first night in Birmingham. When we ⁴ _____ (get) to Edinburgh we ⁵ _____ (go) to our hotel, but they ⁶ _____ (not can) find our reservation, and they ⁷ _____ (be) full. We ⁸ _____ (not know) what to do, but in the end we ⁹ _____ (find) a Bed and Breakfast and we ¹⁰ _____ (stay) there for the week. We ¹¹ _____ (see) the castle and ¹² _____ (buy) a lot of souvenirs. We ¹³ _____ (want) to go to Loch Ness, but we ¹⁴ _____ (not have) much time and it ¹⁵ _____ (be) quite far away. The weather ¹⁶ _____ (not be) very good – it ¹⁷ _____ (start) raining on the day we ¹⁸ _____ (leave) London, and it never ¹⁹ _____ (stop)!

b Complete the questions in the past simple.

Where did you go on holiday last year?

We went to Vancouver.

- Wow! _____ a good time?
Yes, we had a great time.
- _____ with?
I went with my family.
- _____?
We stayed in a hotel.
- _____ the plane tickets
_____?
They cost about £2,000.
- _____ the weather like?
It was hot and sunny.
- _____ in the evening?
We usually went out for dinner.

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Note to the teacher: