10 Present Simple vs Past Simple

Quiz Time

In pairs, complete the sentences and answer the quiz. Compare your answers with the rest of the class.

1 ☐ He ..... **(star)** in the Harry Potter films.
2 ☐ He ..... **(discover)** penicillin.
3 ☐ Leonardo Da Vinci ..... **(paint)** this famous painting.
4 ☐ They ..... **(design)** the Parthenon.
5 ☐ He ..... **(write)** *Romeo & Juliet*.
6 ☐ She ..... **(be)** the daughter of King Henry VIII.
7 ☐ This country ..... **(win)** the World Cup in 2006.
8 ☐ She ..... **(invent)** the Barbie doll.

a Queen Elizabeth I
b Ruth Handler
c Italy
d Shakespeare
e The *Mona Lisa*
f Iktinos and Kallikrates
g Alexander Fleming
h Daniel Radcliffe

Present Simple vs Past Simple

We use the present simple for permanent states and repeated or habitual actions.	We use the past simple for actions which finished at a stated time in the past.
Tom **is** a student. He **goes** to school every day. He usually **goes** to school by bus.	He **bought** a new car last week.
Time expressions used with the present simple:	**Time expressions used with the past simple:**
every day / week / month / year, usually, often, always, rarely, never, sometimes, in the morning / evening / afternoon, at night, etc.	yesterday, then, when, last night / week / month / year, a week / month / year ago, two days ago, in 2003, etc.

8 Circle the correct item.

1 Dad **doesn't buy** / **didn't buy** a new car last week.
2 Mum always **cooks** / **cooked** chicken on Mondays.
3 Do you **like** / **liked** chips?
4 Mary **leaves** / **left** for Italy last month.
5 Do you **brush** / **brushed** your teeth every night?
6 The boys **don't play** / **didn't play** football last Sunday.
7 Did Emily **come** / **came** to the party?
8 I **don't watch** / **didn't watch** TV last night.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Present Simple vs Past Simple

10

9 Write what Edward usually *does* and what he *did* yesterday.

1



- finish / work / 3:30 pm
- finish / work / 2:00 pm

2



- go / home / by train
- go / home / by taxi

3



- eat / dinner / home
- eat / dinner / restaurant

4



- go / bed / early
- go / bed / late

1 Edward usually finishes work at 3:30 pm, but yesterday, he ..... finished work at 2:00 pm. .....

2 .....
.....

3 .....
.....

4 .....
.....

10 Put the verbs in brackets into the *present simple* or the *past simple*.

1 We ..... went ..... **(go)** to the beach last weekend.

2 ..... **(your mum/make)** a chocolate cake yesterday?

3 Dad ..... **(not/work)** on Sundays.

4 He ..... **(not/come)** to the party last Saturday.

5 My cousins ..... **(not/visit)** us every weekend.

6 ..... **(Julia/wear)** jeans to school yesterday?

7 The children always ..... **(do)** their homework in their rooms.

8 I ..... **(send)** Claire an email yesterday afternoon.

11 Complete the sentences with the time expressions from the list.

at the moment	always	yesterday	~~last night~~	every week	last summer

1 We watched a really good film at the cinema ..... last night .....

2 I went to a beautiful exotic island ..... . The weather was very hot.

3 My mother does the shopping ..... .

4 I am working ..... . I can't come with you.

5 She ..... brushes her teeth before she goes to bed at night.

6 He is upset because he failed his driving test ..... .

LIVEWORKSHEETS