

# worked/got/went etc. (past simple)

A

They **watch** television every evening.  
(present simple)

They **watched** television yesterday evening.  
(past simple)

**watched** is the *past simple*:

I/we/you/they he/she/it	<b>watched</b>
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B

The past simple is often **-ed** (*regular verbs*). For example:

work → <b>worked</b>	dance → <b>danced</b>
clean → <b>cleaned</b>	stay → <b>stayed</b>
start → <b>started</b>	need → <b>needed</b>

- I clean my teeth every morning. This morning I **cleaned** my teeth.
- Terry **worked** in a bank from 1996 to 2003.
- Yesterday it **rained** all morning. It **stopped** at lunchtime.
- We **enjoyed** the party last night. We **danced** a lot and **talked** to a lot of people. The party **finished** at midnight.

Spelling (→ Appendix 5):

try → <b>tried</b>	study → <b>studied</b>	copy → <b>copied</b>
stop → <b>stopped</b>	plan → <b>planned</b>	

C

Some verbs are *irregular* (= not regular). The past simple is *not -ed*. Here are some important irregular verbs (see also Appendix 2–3):

begin → <b>began</b>	fall → <b>fell</b>	leave → <b>left</b>	sell → <b>sold</b>
break <b>broke</b>	find <b>found</b>	lose <b>lost</b>	sit <b>sat</b>
bring <b>brought</b>	fly <b>flew</b>	make <b>made</b>	sleep <b>slept</b>
build <b>built</b>	forget <b>forgot</b>	meet <b>met</b>	speak <b>spoke</b>
buy <b>bought</b>	get <b>got</b>	pay <b>paid</b>	stand <b>stood</b>
catch <b>caught</b>	give <b>gave</b>	put <b>put</b>	take <b>took</b>
come <b>came</b>	go <b>went</b>	read <b>read (red)*</b>	tell <b>told</b>
do <b>did</b>	have <b>had</b>	ring <b>rang</b>	think <b>thought</b>
drink <b>drank</b>	hear <b>heard</b>	say <b>said</b>	win <b>won</b>
eat <b>ate</b>	know <b>knew</b>	see <b>saw</b>	write <b>wrote</b>

\* pronounced 'red'

- I usually get up early, but this morning I **got** up at 9 o'clock.
- We **did** a lot of work yesterday.
- Caroline **went** to the cinema three times last week.
- James **came** into the room, **took** off his coat and **sat** down.

# Exercises

11.1 Complete the sentences. Use a verb from the box.

~~clean~~ die enjoy finish happen open rain start stay want

- I cleaned my teeth three times yesterday.
- It was hot in the room, so I ..... the window.
- The film was very long. It ..... at 7.15 and ..... at 10 o'clock.
- When I was a child, I ..... to be a doctor.
- The accident ..... last Sunday afternoon.
- It's a nice day today, but yesterday it ..... all day.
- We ..... our holiday last year. We ..... at a very nice place.
- Anna's grandfather ..... when he was 90 years old.

11.2 Write the past simple of these verbs.

- |                  |               |               |                |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1 get <u>got</u> | 4 pay .....   | 7 go .....    | 10 know .....  |
| 2 see .....      | 5 visit ..... | 8 think ..... | 11 put .....   |
| 3 play .....     | 6 buy .....   | 9 copy .....  | 12 speak ..... |

11.3 Read about Lisa's journey to Madrid. Put the verbs in the correct form.



Last Tuesday Lisa (1) flew from London to Madrid. She (2) ..... up at 6 o'clock in the morning and (3) ..... a cup of coffee. At 6.30 she (4) ..... home and (5) ..... to the airport. When she (6) ..... there, she (7) ..... the car, (8) ..... to the airport building, and (9) ..... in. Then she (10) ..... breakfast at a café and (11) ..... for her flight. The plane (12) ..... on time and (13) ..... in Madrid two hours later. Finally she (14) ..... a taxi from the airport to her hotel in the centre of Madrid.

fly, get  
have  
leave, drive  
get, park, walk  
check, have  
wait, depart  
arrive, take

11.4 Write sentences about the past (yesterday / last week etc.).

- James always goes to work by car. Yesterday he went to work by car.
- Rachel often loses her keys. She ..... last week.
- Kate meets her friends every evening. She ..... yesterday evening.
- I usually buy two newspapers every day. Yesterday I .....
- We often go to the cinema at weekends. Last Sunday we .....
- I eat an orange every day. Yesterday I .....
- Tom always has a shower in the morning. This morning he .....
- Our friends often come to see us. They ..... last Friday.

11.5 Write sentences about what you did yesterday.

- I went to the theatre.
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....