

THE SIMPLE PAST



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We graduated from university in 2009.



1 FORMS OF THE SIMPLE PAST: REGULAR VERBS

They *watched* the movie last night.

Alexandra *answered* the question yesterday.

watch + ed = *watched*
answer + ed = *answered*

STATEMENT

I-You-She-He-It-We-They
started school last week.



STATEMENT I-You-She-He-It-We-They
started school last week.

NEGATIVE I-You-She-He-It-We-They
did not/didn't start school last week.

QUESTION

Did I-you-she-he-it-we-they
start school last week?

SHORT

ANSWER

Yes, I-you-she-he-it-we-they *did*.

No, I-you-she-he-it-we-they *didn't*.

3 FORMS OF THE SIMPLE PAST: *BE*

She **was** sick last Monday.



2 FORMS OF THE SIMPLE PAST: TO BE

I *was* a lifeguard last summer.

They *were* in Belgium last month.

Simple past forms of be → *was* and *were*

3 FORMS OF THE SIMPLE PAST: *BE*

STATEMENT I-She-He-It ***was*** home last week.
We-You-They ***were*** home last week.

NEGATIVE I-She-He-It ***was not/wasn't*** home last week.
We-You-They ***were not/weren't*** home last week.

QUESTION

Was I-she-he-it home last week?

Were we-you-they home last week?

SHORT ANSWER

Yes, I-she-he-it **was**.

Yes, we-you-they **were**.

No, I-she-he-it- **wasn't**.

No, we-you-they **weren't**.

3 USES OF THE SIMPLE PAST

Joanna *studied* English for six hours last *Friday*.

Our family *ate* lunch outside *yesterday*.



Our family *ate* lunch outside *yesterday*.

Joanna *studied* English for six hours last *Friday*.

SIMPLE PAST →

**completed activities or situations
in the past (began and ended)
with time expressions (yesterday,
last night, in 2009...)**

Past



Past

Present

Future

Habitual



Past

Present

Future

Duration



Past

Present

Future

The simple past is used:

1. to talk about actions **completed** in the past at a definite time (ex. I met her yesterday/in 2007);
2. to talk about **past routines or habits** (ex. They never drank wine);
3. to talk about **past situations or conditions** or **events over a period of time in the past** (ex. I lived in London for 5 years);
4. to describe **consecutive past actions** (ex. Yesterday evening I **went** to the stadium, **watched** the game, **ate** a hot dog, and (then) went home);
5. in **conditional sentences of type 2** (ex. If I **had** enough money, I'd buy a new car).

Simple past key words



Past dates and times
(days, months, years),
*yesterday, ago, last week/
month/year.*

Let's Practice



They were at the movies last night at 8:00.



NEGATIVE STATEMENT:

They _____ at the movies last night at 8:00.

ACCURATE, AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENT:

They _____ at the grocery store last night at 8:00.



They were at the movies last night at 8:00.



NEGATIVE STATEMENT:

They weren't at the movies last night at 8:00.

ACCURATE, AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENT:

They were at the grocery store last night at 8:00.

4 REGULAR VERBS: PRONUNCIATION OF *-ED* ENDINGS

She talked to me for an hour.

talk/t/



- (a) talked = talk/t/
stopped = stop/t/
hiss**ed** = hiss/t/
watch**ed** = watch/t/
wash**ed** = wash/t/

voiceless sound + **-ed** → **/t/**

examples: **/f/k/, /p/, /s/, /ch/, /sh/ th/**

- (b) **called** = call/d/
rained = rain/d/
lived = live/d/
robbed = rob/d/
stayed = stay/d/

voiced sound + **-ed** → **/d/**

examples: **/l/, /n/ /v/ /b/...**

- (b) called = call/d/
rained = rain/d/
l**iv**ed = live/d/
rob**b**ed = rob/d/
stay**y**ed = stay/d/

voiced sound + **-ed** → **/d/**

examples: **/l/, /n/, /v/, /b/, all vowel sounds**

- (c) waited = wait /id/
needed = need /id/

“t” or “d” + -ed → /id/

Note that it is **the sound** that is important, not the letter or spelling. For example, “fax” ends in the letter “x” but the sound /s/; “like” ends in the letter “e” but the sound /k/.

4 Let's Practice

behave ?



1. /t/
2. /d/
3. /id/

behave/d/



1. /t/
2. /d/
3. /id/

plant ?



1. /t/
2. /d/
3. /id/

plant/əd/



planted

1. /t/
2. /d/
3. /id/

We *slept* in tents at camp last summer.



3 FORMS OF THE SIMPLE PAST:

2-1 EXPRESSIONS OF THE SIMPLE PAST

IRREGULAR VERBS

We *slept* in tents at camp last summer.

I *understood* most of the directions yesterday.

Irregular past:

sleep

slept

understand

understood

eat

ate

Did Carla get a bad grade on her test?

get



NEGATIVE STATEMENT:

Carla _____ a bad grade on her test.

ACCURATE, AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENT:

Carla _____ an excellent grade on her test.

Did Carla get a bad grade on her test?

get



NEGATIVE STATEMENT:

Carla didn't get a bad grade on her test.

ACCURATE, AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENT:

Carla got an excellent grade on her test.

5 THE PRINCIPAL PARTS OF A VERB

SIMPLE/MAIN FORM

Regular Verbs

finish
hope
try

Irregular Verbs

see
sing
go

Simple Form
No final *-s*, *-ed*, or *-ing*

SIMPLE PAST

Regular Verbs

finished

hoped

tried

Irregular Verbs

saw

sang

went

Simple Past
-ed for regular verbs

PAST PARTICIPLE

Regular Verbs

finished

hoped

tried

Irregular Verbs

seen

sung

gone

Past Participle
-ed for regular verbs
perfect tenses & passive

PRESENT PARTICIPLE

Regular Verbs

finishing

hoping

trying

Irregular Verbs

seeing

singing

going

Present Participle
***-ing* for all verbs**
used with progressive tenses

6 IRREGULAR VERBS: A REFERENCE LIST

SIMPLE FORM: awake

SIMPLE PAST: awoke

PAST PARTICIPLE: awoken



SIMPLE FORM: forget

SIMPLE PAST: forgot

PAST PARTICIPLE: forgotten



SIMPLE FORM: shave

SIMPLE PAST: shaved

PAST PARTICIPLE: shaved/shaven





SIMPLE FORM: throw

SIMPLE PAST: threw

PAST PARTICIPLE: thrown

6 Let's Practice

SIMPLE FORM: give

SIMPLE PAST: _____

PAST PARTICIPLE: _____



SIMPLE FORM: give

SIMPLE PAST: gave

PAST PARTICIPLE: given



SIMPLE FORM: sit

SIMPLE PAST: _____

PAST PARTICIPLE: _____



SIMPLE FORM: sit

SIMPLE PAST: sit

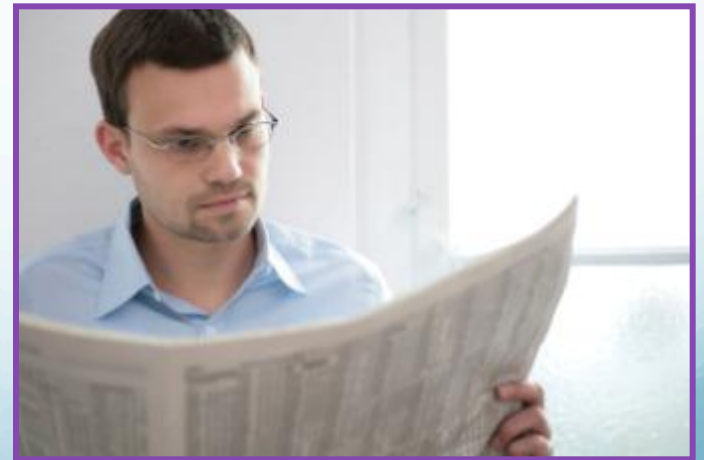
PAST PARTICIPLE: sit



SIMPLE FORM: think

SIMPLE PAST: thought

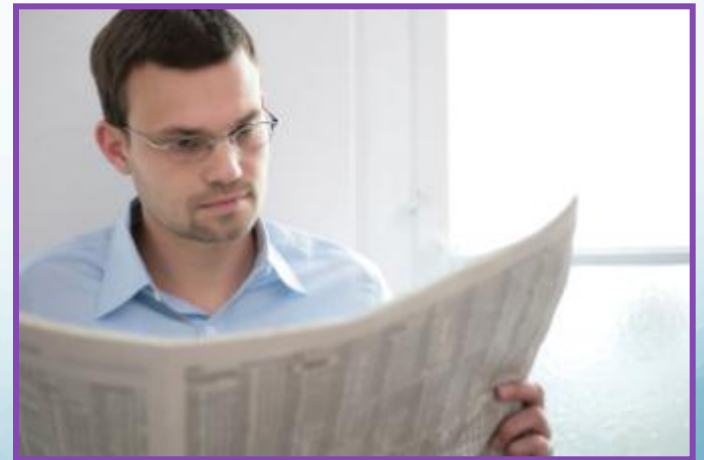
PAST PARTICIPLE: thought



SIMPLE FORM: think

SIMPLE PAST: _____

PAST PARTICIPLE: _____



7 EXPRESSING PAST HABIT: *USED TO*

He used to be a baby, but now he is man with a family.



I *used to swim* every afternoon.

Now I work in the afternoon.

Fatima *used to play piano*, but now she plays the violin.

used to → past situations
no longer exist
used to + simple form of a verb

Did you ***used to swim*** every afternoon?

(OR ***Did*** you ***use to swim*** every afternoon?)

did + subject + used to
(OR ***did + subject + use to***)

- (e) I *didn't used to swim* every day, but now I swim every afternoon.
- (f) Fatima *never used to love* school, but now she loves it.

**For negative ideas,
never is more common.**

7 Let's Practice

Correct?

The children used to swam in the ocean.



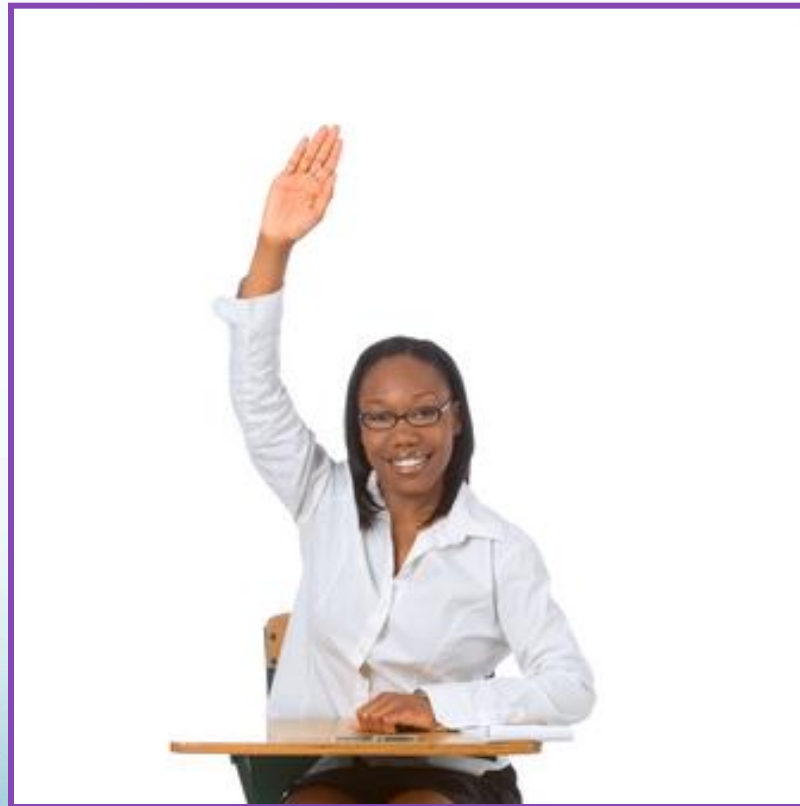
Correct? **No**

The children used to **swim** in the ocean.



Correct?

Were you used to ask questions in school?



Correct? **No**

Did you used to ask questions in school?

