

Past simple: regular verbs

Affirmative

Forma affermativa

I watched
you watched
he watched
she watched
it watched
we watched
you watched
they watched

il **Past simple:**

a) della maggior parte dei verbi si ottiene aggiungendo **-ed** alla forma base del verbo

b) ha un'unica forma per tutte le persone

c) si usa per descrivere azioni o situazioni che sono iniziate e si sono concluse nel passato

il riferimento al tempo passato può coincidere con un passato recente (**yesterday, last week**, ecc.) o lontano (**in 1945, fifty years ago**).

L'importante è che l'azione si sia conclusa

forma base + **-ed** = **Past simple**

si deve tuttavia tener conto delle seguenti **regole ortografiche:**

- ai verbi che terminano in **-e** si aggiunge solamente **-d**
love → loved

- ai verbi che terminano in **-y** preceduta da una consonante, si cambia **-y** in **-i** e si aggiunge **-ed**
tidy → tidied

- alcuni verbi raddoppiano la consonante finale prima di aggiungere **-ed**

stop → stopped
travel → travelled
rob → robbed
plan → planned
prefer → preferred

PAST SIMPLE TENSE

TO BE

+

S + Was/were

They were friends.

-

S + was not/were not + ...

They weren't friends.

?

Was/Were + S + ...?

They weren't friends.

VERBS

S + V-ed

She worked yesterday.

S + did not + verb (base form)

She didn't work yesterday.

Did + S + verb (in base form)?

Did she work yesterday?

Usage

Example

To express completed action in the past

I saw a ghost last Friday.

To describe a series of completed actions in the past

I finished work, walked to the beach, and found a nice place to swim.

To express habits in the past

When I was young, I watched lots of television every day after school.

For stative verbs (have (own), be, think (believe), know, dislike, need, owe, wish

He had a small cottage in the woods.



Past Simple Tense

Simple Past Tense indicates an action which is completed at a definite time in the past.

POSITIVE (+)	NEGATIVE (-)	QUESTION (?)
I started	I did not (didn't) start	Did I start
You started	You did not (didn't) start	Did you start
He started	He did not (didn't) start	Did he start
She started	She did not (didn't) start	Did she start
It started	It did not (didn't) start	Did it start
We started	We did not (didn't) start	Did we start
You started	You did not (didn't) start	Did you start
They started	They did not (didn't) start	Did they start

Examples:

- He **drew** beautiful pictures last week.
- You **gave** the present to your friend.
- We **bought** a new car.
- He **did not (didn't) draw** beautiful pictures last week.
- **Did I learn** Spanish last summer?
- **Did you give** the present to your friend?
- **Did we buy** a new car?



The Past Simple with "be"

Positive with 'be'	Negative with 'be'	Negative Short Form
I was cold.	I was not sleepy.	I wasn't sleepy.
You were tired.	You were not on the bus.	You weren't on the bus.
He was in the garden.	He was not at school.	He wasn't at school.
He was late.	He was not ugly.	He wasn't ugly.
It was rainy.	It was not hot.	It wasn't hot.
We were on holiday.	We were not at work.	We weren't at work.
They were hungry.	They were not tired.	They weren't tired.