



## Past Simple

The past simple tense is used for actions that have finished in the past. (The action has finished.)

*I met Chris for lunch on Saturday.*

*I went to the supermarket yesterday. (I am not doing these actions now.)*

This tense is often used with **time** words that talk about past time: *last week, yesterday, in 2003.*

*In 2003 I lived in Brisbane. Then I moved to Sydney last year. I really like Sydney!*

*(I do not live in Brisbane now. I live in Sydney.)*

### Past Simple Forms - Positive

With most verbs (called regular verbs), the past simple tense is made by adding **-ed** to the end of the verb: *I walk -> I walked*

*I walked*

*You walked.*

*We walked.*

*They walked.*

*He / she / it walked.*

### Past Simple Forms - Questions

Questions are made with **did**.

*Did I walk?*

*Did you walk?*

*Did we walk?*

*Did they walk?*

*Did he / she / it walk?*

### Past Simple Forms - Negative

The negative is made with **didn't**.

*I didn't walk.*

*You didn't walk.*

*We didn't walk.*

*They didn't walk.*

*He / she / it didn't walk.*

### Irregular verbs

Many verbs are **irregular**--this means they do not follow the rule for **regular** verbs and do not end in **-ed** in the past simple tense. You need to learn what the past simple form is for each of these irregular verbs. It would be a good idea to keep a list of them in your vocabulary notebook.

Here are some examples:

#### Base Form -> Past Simple

*be -> was / were*

*break -> broke*

*bring -> brought*

*cost -> cost*

*send -> sent*

*sell -> sold*

*sleep -> slept*

*take -> took*



Exercise 1: Put the verbs in brackets in the past simple tense. They are all in the **positive**. They are **regular** verbs.

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ (*visit*) London last year.
2. I \_\_\_\_\_ (*call*) my friend yesterday.
3. She \_\_\_\_\_ (*look*) for her keys.
4. He \_\_\_\_\_ (*show*) me his new car.

Exercise 2: Put the verbs in brackets in the past simple tense. They are all in the **positive**. Some are **regular**, others are **irregular** verbs.

Did you go out yesterday?

Yes, I 1. \_\_\_\_\_ (*go*) to the beach.

Was the weather good?

Yes, it 2. \_\_\_\_\_ (*be*) great.

Did you go swimming?

No, I 3. \_\_\_\_\_ (*play*) volleyball and 4. \_\_\_\_\_ (*talk*) to my friends.

Did you have a good time?

Yes, I did. I 5. \_\_\_\_\_ (*have*) lots of fun.

Exercise 3: Put the verbs in brackets in the past simple tense. Some are **questions**, others are **negative**.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (*visit*) Paris last year?

No, I 2. \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ (*go*) to Paris last year. I went to New York.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (*buy*) some oranges?

No, I 4. \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ (*buy*) any oranges. I bought strawberries and grapes.

5. \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (*see*) Charlie?

No, I 6. \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ (*see*) him last night. He wasn't at the party.

7. \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (*phone*) your parents yesterday?

No, I 8. \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ (*phone*) them. I phoned my boyfriend.

#### Answers:

Exercise 1: 1. visited, 2. called, 3. looked, 4. showed.

Exercise 2: 1. went, 2. was, 3. played, 4. talked, 5. had.

Exercise 3: 1. Did you visit, 2. I didn't go 3. Did you buy, 4. I didn't buy, 5. Did you see, 6. I didn't see, 7. Did you phone, 8. I didn't phone.

