

III-Simple Past

Tom: Look! It's raining again.

Ann: Oh no, not again.

It **rained** all day yesterday too.

Rained is the simple past tense.

We use the simple past to talk about actions or situations in the past.

Used for finished actions or events at a specific point in the past

I enjoyed the party very much.

Mr. Brown died ten years ago.

When I lived in Athens, I worked in a bank.

Cases

- Very often the simple past ends in -ed:
- ■ We invited them to our party, but they decided not to come.
- ■ The police stopped me on my way home last night.
- ■ She passed her exam because she studied very hard.
- But many important verbs are irregular. This means that the simple past does not end in -ed: leave > left
- We all left the party at 11:00. go -> went cost -> cost
- ■ Last month I went to Rome to see a friend of mine.
- ■ This house cost \$75,000 in 1980.
- The past of the verb be (am/is/are) is was/were: I/he/she/it was we/you/they were
- ■ I was angry because Tom and Ann were late.

List of irregular verbs

base form	simple past	past participle		base form	simple past	past participle
be	was/were	been		light	lit	lit
beat	beat	beaten		lose	lost	lost
become	became	become		make	made	made
begin	began	begun		mean	meant	meant
bend	bent	bent		meet	met	met
bet	bet	bet		pay	paid	paid
bite	bit	bitten		put	put	put
blow	blew	blown	read/ <i>ri:d</i> /	read/ <i>red</i> /	read/ <i>red</i> /	
break	broke	broken		ride	rode	ridden
bring	brought	brought		ring	rang	rung
build	built	built		rise	rose	risen
burst	burst	burst		run	ran	run
buy	bought	bought		say	said	said
catch	caught	caught		see	saw	seen
choose	chose	chosen		seek	sought	sought
come	came	come		sell	sold	sold
cost	cost	cost		send	sent	sent
cut	cut	cut		set	set	set
deal	dealt	dealt		sew	sewed	sewn/sewed
dig	dug	dug		shake	shook	shaken
do	did	done		shine	shone	shone
draw	drew	drawn		shoot	shot	shot
drink	drank	drunk		show	showed	shown
drive	drove	driven		shrink	shrank	shrunk
eat	ate	eaten		shut	shut	shut

eat	ate	eaten		shut	shut	shut
fall	fell	fallen		sing	sang	sung
feed	fed	fed		sink	sank	sunk
feel	felt	felt		sit	sat	sat
fight	fought	fought		sleep	slept	slept
find	found	found		speak	spoke	spoken
fit	fit	fit		spend	spent	spent
fly	flew	flown		split	split	split
forbid	forbade	forbidden		spread	spread	spread
forget	forgot	forgotten		spring	sprang	sprung
forgive	forgave	forgiven		stand	stood	stood
freeze	froze	frozen		steal	stole	stolen
get	got	gotten		stick	stuck	stuck
give	gave	given		sting	stung	stung
go	went	gone		stink	stank	stunk
grow	grew	grown		strike	struck	struck
hang	hung	hung		swear	swore	sworn
have	had	had		sweep	swept	swept
hear	heard	heard		swim	swam	swum
hide	hid	hidden		swing	swung	swung
hit	hit	hit		take	took	taken
hold	held	held		teach	taught	taught
hurt	hurt	hurt		tear	tore	torn
keep	kept	kept		tell	told	told
know	knew	known		think	thought	thought
lay	laid	laid		throw	threw	thrown
lead	led	led		understand	understood	understood
leave	left	left		wake	woke	woken
lend	lent	lent		wear	wore	worn
let	let	let		win	won	won
lie	lay	lain		write	wrote	written

Cases

- in simple past questions and negatives we use **did/didn't + the base form (do/open, etc.):**
- it rained **did it rain?** it **didn't rain**
- ■ Ann: Did you go out last night, Tom? Tom: Yes, I **went** to the movies. But I **didn't enjoy** it.
- ■ When **did** Mrs. Johnson **die**? What **did** you **do** over the weekend?
- ■ We **didn't invite** her to the party, so she **didn't come**.
- ■ Why **didn't** you **call**
- me on Tuesday? Note that we normally use did/didn't with have:
- ■ Did you **have** time to write the letter?
- ■ I **didn't have** enough money to buy anything to eat. But we do not use did with the verb be (was/were):
- ■ Why **were** you so angry? Was Mark **at work** yesterday? ■ They **weren't able** to come because they **were** very busy.

Exercise 1

- Read a sentence about the present and then write a sentence about the past.
- Example: Carol usually gets up at 7:30. Yesterday she **got up** at 7:30
- 1. Carol usually wakes up early. Yesterday morning
- 2. Carol usually walks to work. Yesterday
- 3. Carol is usually late for work. Yesterday
- 4. Carol usually has a sandwich for lunch. Yesterday
- 5. Carol usually goes out in the evening. Yesterday evening
- 6. Carol usually sleeps very well. Last night

Solved-exercise 1

- Read a sentence about the present and then write a sentence about the past.
- Example: Carol usually gets up at 7:30. Yesterday she **got up** at 7:30
- 1. Carol usually wakes up early. Yesterday morning **she woke** up early
- 2. Carol usually walks to work. Yesterday she **walked** to work
- 3. Carol is usually late for work. Yesterday she **was** late for work
- 4. Carol usually has a sandwich for lunch. Yesterday she **had** a sandwich
- 5. Carol usually goes out in the evening. Yesterday evening she **went out**
- 6. Carol usually sleeps very well. Last night she **slept** very well

Exercise 2

- Put one of these verbs in each sentence: **hurt, teach, spend, sell, throw, fall, catch, buy, cost**,
- Example: I was hungry, so **I bought** something to eat at the store.
- 1. Tom's father him how to drive when he was 17.
- 2. Don down the stairs this morning and..... his leg.
- 3. We needed some money, so weour car.
- 4. Anna lot of money yesterday. She a dress that \$80.
- 5. Jimthe ball to Sue, whoit.

Solved-exercise 2

- Put one of these verbs in each sentence: **hurt, teach, spend, sell, throw, fall, catch, buy, cost**,
- Example: I was hungry, so **I bought** something to eat at the store.
- 1. Tom's father **taught** him how to drive when he was 17.
- 2. Don **fell down** the stairs this morning and **hurt** his leg.
- 3. We needed some money, so we **sold** our car.
- 4. Ann **spent** a lot of money yesterday. She **bought** a dress that **cost** \$80.
- 5. Jim **caught** the ball to Sue, who **threw** it.

Exercise 3

- Write questions. A friend has just come back from vacation and you are asking about it.
- Examples: where/go? /where did you go
- food /good? .Was the food good.
- 1. how long/ stay there?
- .
- 2. stay in a hotel?
- .
- 3. go alone?
- 4. how/ travel?
- .
- 5. the weather/ nice?
- .
- 6. what/ do in the evenings?
- .
- 7. meet any interesting people?
- .

Solved-exercise 3

- Write questions. A friend has just come back from vacation and you are asking about it.
- Examples: where/go? /where did you go
- food /good? .Was the food good.
- 1. how long/ stay there?
- . HOW LONG DID YOU STAY THERE?
- 2. stay in a hotel?
- . DID YOU STAY IN A HOTEL?
- 3. go alone?
- DID YOU GO ALONE?
- 4. how/ travel?
- . HOW DID YOU TRAVELE?
- 5. the weather/ nice?
- . WAS THE WHETHER NICE?
- 6. what/ do in the evenings?
- . WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE EVENING
- 7. meet any interesting people?
- .DID YOU MEET ANY INTERESTING PEOPLE?