

SIMPLE PAST



SIMPLE PAST

1. Use the simple past to talk about actions, states or situations that are **finished**.

Examples:

- I traveled to United States last year.
- She wrote a novel in 2010.

These things happened at some point in the past and finished.

2. Use simple past with time expressions that refer to the past.

Examples:

- He lived in the 19th century.
- By 1976 he had a lot of fans.
- She died more than **3 years ago**.
- 3. Use the simple past to refer to list a series of completed actions in the past.

Examples:

- I finished work, walked to the yard and found a nice place to rest.
- She arrived from her trip at 9:00, took a shower and went to bed at 11:00.
- I added the eggs, then poured in the milk and then added the sugar.
- Alice **came** in, **walked** through the door and **saw** him.

All these actions started and finished in the past.



4. Use the simple past with a duration that starts in the past and stops in the past. It is usually indicated by words such as: for 2 years, for 5 minutes, all day, etc.

Examples:

- I stayed there for 5 minutes.
- She lived in France for three years.

These actions started and finished in the past.

5. We use simple past to describe a habit which stopped in the past.

Examples:

- He studied Portuguese when he was a child.
- They never went to school, they always skipped class.

Remember we use frequency adverbs to talk about a habit: **Always, never, often**, etc.

6. Use the simple past to talk about past facts that are not happening anymore.

Examples:

- When he was a child, he was very shy; however, he Is not anymore.
- He did not like cucumbers before.
- Did you live in Australia when you were a child?





FORMS OF THE SIMPLE PAST

REGULAR VERBS

The simple past of regular verbs is formed by adding -d or -ed to the base form of the verb.

Examples:

BASE FORM	SIMPLE PAST
Live	Lived
Join	Join ed
Study	Stud ied
Нор	Hop ped
Prefer	Prefer red

There are often spelling changes when adding -ed to the verb. Be careful!

IRREGULAR VERBS

Many common verbs are irregular; their past form is not formed by following a rule. These need to be memorized.



Easy Pace Learning. (n.d.). Irregular verbs in infinitive past simple and past participle. (2015, December 26th) Retrieved from: http://www.easypacelearning.com/all-lessons/grammar/1204-list-of-irregular-verbs-in-infinitive-past-simple-and-past-participle





AFFIRMATIVE

SENTENCE STRUCTURE

To create a simple past sentence in English, the following pattern must be followed:

Subject + verb (past form) + complement

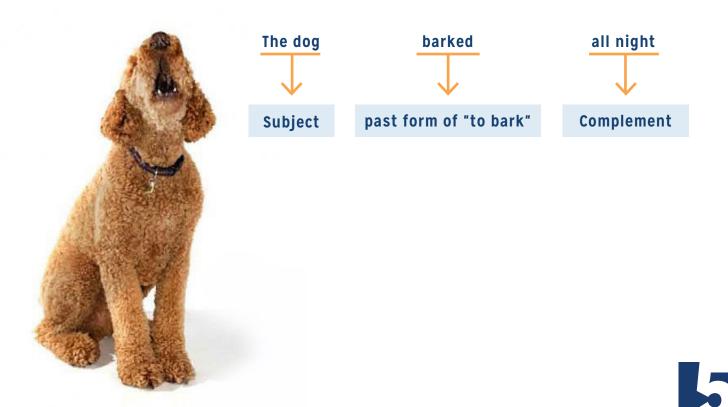
Subject is the person, thing or animal we are referring to.

Verb is the action the subject did.

Complement is the rest of the Information that completes what you need to say.

Examples:

• The dog **barked** all night.



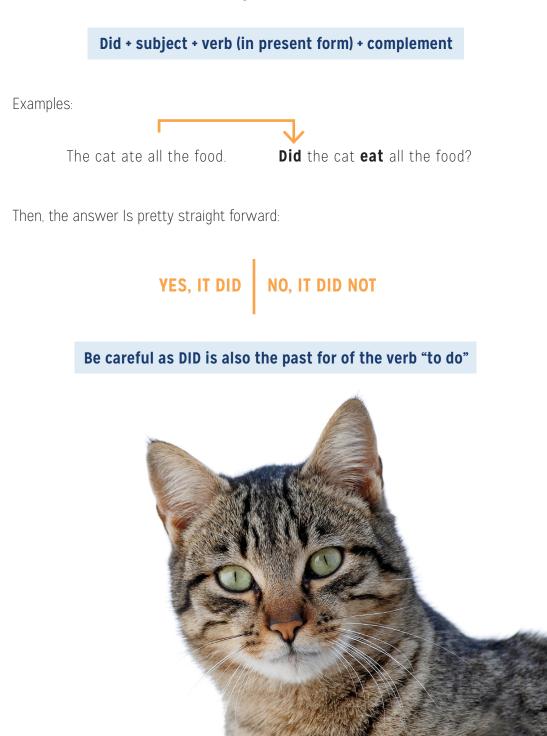


YES/NO QUESTIONS

To turn a simple past sentence into question, we need to use the auxiliary "Did". This will show you a question is in the past time.

Since the word "did" carries the past form, the verb will be changed to present form.

The structure to follow is the following one:







BIBLIOGRAPHY

- English Page. (n.d.). Simple Past. (2015, December 26th) Retrieved from: http://www. englishpage.com/verbpage/simplepast.html
- Fuchs, M., Bonner, M., & Westheimer, M. (2006). Focus on Grammar 3: An Integrated Approach (3rd ed.). New York, White Plains: Pearson Education.

