



San Marcos

MIEMBRO DE LA RED  
ILUMNO

# 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	Joined
Study	Studied
Hop	Hopped
Prefer	Preferred

**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.





<b>INFINITIVE</b>	<b>SIMPLE PAST</b>	<b>PAST PARTICIPLE</b>	<b>INFINITIVE</b>	<b>SIMPLE PAST</b>	<b>PAST PARTICIPLE</b>
<b>be</b>	was/were	been	<b>keep</b>	kept	kept
<b>become</b>	became	become	<b>know</b>	knew	known
<b>begin</b>	began	begun	<b>leave</b>	left	left
<b>bite</b>	bit	bitten	<b>lend</b>	lent	lent
<b>bleed</b>	bled	bled	<b>let</b>	let	let
<b>break</b>	broke	broken	<b>lose</b>	lost	lost
<b>bring</b>	brought	brought	<b>make</b>	made	made
<b>build</b>	built	built	<b>meet</b>	met	met
<b>buy</b>	bought	bought	<b>pay</b>	paid	paid
<b>choose</b>	chose	chosen	<b>put</b>	put	put
<b>come</b>	came	come	<b>read</b>	read	read
<b>cost</b>	cost	cost	<b>ride</b>	rode	ridden
<b>cut</b>	cut	cut	<b>ring</b>	rang	rung
<b>dig</b>	dug	dug	<b>run</b>	ran	run
<b>do</b>	did	done	<b>say</b>	said	said
<b>drink</b>	drank	drunk	<b>see</b>	saw	seen
<b>drive</b>	drove	driven	<b>sell</b>	sold	sold
<b>eat</b>	ate	eaten	<b>send</b>	sent	sent
<b>fall</b>	fell	fallen	<b>set</b>	set	set
<b>feed</b>	fed	fed	<b>show</b>	showed	shown
<b>feel</b>	felt	felt	<b>sit</b>	sat	sat
<b>fight</b>	fought	fought	<b>sleep</b>	slept	slept
<b>find</b>	found	found	<b>speak</b>	spoke	spoken
<b>forget</b>	forgot	forgotten	<b>spend</b>	spent	spent
<b>get</b>	got	got	<b>swim</b>	swam	swum
<b>give</b>	gave	given	<b>take</b>	took	taken
<b>go</b>	went	gone	<b>teach</b>	taught	taught
<b>grow</b>	grew	grown	<b>tell</b>	told	told
<b>hang</b>	hung	hung	<b>think</b>	thought	thought
<b>have</b>	had	had	<b>throw</b>	threw	thrown
<b>hear</b>	heard	heard	<b>understand</b>	understood	understood
<b>hide</b>	hid	hidden	<b>wear</b>	wore	worn
<b>hit</b>	hit	hit	<b>win</b>	won	won
<b>hold</b>	held	held	<b>write</b>	wrote	written
<b>hurt</b>	hurt	hurt			

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.



The dog



Subject

barked



past form of "to bark"

all night



Complement



## 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:

**Did + subject + verb (in present form) + complement**

Examples:

The cat ate all the food.      **Did** the cat **eat** all the food?

Then, the answer is pretty straight forward:

**YES, IT DID** | **NO, IT DID NOT**

**Be careful as DID is also the past form of the verb "to do"**



## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

English Page. (n.d.). Simple Past. (2015, December 26th) Retrieved from: <http://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/simplepast.html>

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