



Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo

Escuela Superior de Tizayuca



Área Académica: Licenciatura en Turismo.

Tema: Past Simple

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Tema: Past Simple

Abstract

Students need to know grammar structures in order to communicate well.

This is a basic tense.

Keywords: Past Simple, past actions, -ed,-ied,-d, regular verbs, irregular verbs

SIMPLE PAST

Simple Past - Diagram

We use the Simple Past when we talk about something which started and finished in the past.



We use the Simple Past to describe a series of actions in the past.

We use the Simple Past (red) together with the Past Progressive (grey). The action in the Simple Past interrupted the action in the Past Progressive (the one which was in progress).



AFFIRMATIVE, NEGATIVE AND QUESTIONS

Form of the Simple Past

- Form the Simple Past:
 - with regular verbs: **infinitive + -ed**
 - with irregular verbs: **2nd column** of the table of the irregular verbs

Affirmative sentences:

Use the same form of the verb every time regardless the subject.

regular verbs	irregular verbs
I played football.	I went to the supermarket.

Negative sentences:

Use the auxiliary **did** (Simple Past of do) every time regardless the subject.

NOTE: Short forms in negative sentences in the Simple Past are used quite often.

regular verbs	irregular verbs
I did not play football.	I did not go to the supermarket.

regular verbs	irregular verbs
I didn't play football.	I didn't go to the supermarket.





Questions:

Use the auxiliary **did** (Simple Past of do) every time regardless the subject.

regular verbs	irregular verbs
Did you play football?	Did I go to the supermarket?

SIGNAL WORDS

Simple Past - Signal words

These words tell you what tense you have to use. For the Simple Past these are expressions of time in the past.

yesterday
last week
a month ago
in 2002

IRREGULAR VERBS/ SPECIAL VERBS

Special verbs in the Simple Past

1) have as a full verb

affirmative sentence

negative sentence

question

every time regardless the subject (I, he, she, it, we, you, they):

I **had** a book.

I **did not have** a book.

Did I have a book?

2) be as a full verb

<i>affirmative sentence</i>	<i>negative sentence</i>	<i>question</i>
I, he, she, it:		
I was in Rome.	I was not in Rome.	Was I in Rome?
we, you, they:		
We were in Rome.	We were not in Rome.	Were we in Rome?

3) do as a full verb

<i>affirmative sentence</i>	<i>negative sentence</i>	<i>question</i>
every time regardless the subject (I, he, she, it, we, you, they):		
I did an exercise.	I did not do an exercise.	Did I do an exercise?



SPELLING

Simple Past – Spelling

You have to know all forms of the irregular verbs very well. For the Simple Past you need the form of the verb which can be found in the 2nd column of the table of the irregular verbs.

go - **went** - gone

Add **-ed** with regular verbs.

regular verbs

infinitive + **-ed**



Sometimes there are exceptions in spelling when adding -ed.

- **1) consonant after short, stressed vowel at the end of the word**

Double the consonant.

stop – **stopped**

swap – **swapped**

If the consonant is not stressed, we do not double it:

benefit - benefited (Here we stress the first 'e', not the 'i'.) In British English we double one -l at the end of the word:

travel – **travelled**

- **2) one -e at the end of the word**

Add only -d.

love – **loved**

save – **saved**





- **3) verbs ending in -y**

verbs ending in 'y' preceded by a vowel (a, e, i, o, u): Add -ed.

Example:

I play - he played

verbs ending in 'y' preceded by a consonant: Change 'y' to 'i'
Then add -ed.

Example:

I hurry - he hurried

irregular verbs

2nd column of the table of
the [irregular verbs](#)

SUMMARY

Use

- 1) **action finished in the past**
I **visited** Berlin last week.
- 2) **series of completed actions in the past**
First I **got** up, then I **had** breakfast.
- 3) **together with the Past Progressive/Continuous - The Simple Past interrupted an action which was in progress in the past.**
They **were playing** cards when the telephone **rang**.

Signal words

yesterday, last week, a month ago, in 2002

Form

- with regular verbs: **infinitive + -ed**
- with irregular verbs: **2nd column** of the table of the irregular verbs

Examples

Affirmative sentences:

regular verbs	irregular verbs
I played football all.	I went to the cinema.
We visited Alaska last year.	We were in Rome yesterday.

Negative sentences:

You must not negate a full verb in English. Always use the auxiliary **did** (Simple Past of to do) for negations.

I		played	football.
I	didn't	play	football.
He	didn't	play	football.





Questions:

Use the auxiliary **did** (Simple Past of to do).

Did you **play** football?

Did he **play** football?



USE

Simple Past - Use

The Simple Past is used to talk about actions or situations in the past. It is also called Past Simple.

Have a look at the following examples:

- **1) action finished in the past (single or repeated)**

I **visited** Berlin last week.

Andrew **watched** TV yesterday.

- **2) series of completed actions in the past**

First I **got up**, then I **had** breakfast.

- **3) together with the Past Progressive/Continuous - The Simple Past interrupted an action which was in progress in the past.**

They **were playing** cards when the telephone **rang**.

1st action: Past Progressive **were playing**

2nd action: Simple Past **rang**



Taken from:

- http://www.english-hilfen.de/en/grammar/simple_past_diagram.htm