

# Simple past

Exercises

# was/were



Now Robert **is** at work.

At midnight last night he **wasn't** at work.

He **was** in bed.  
He **was** asleep.

**am/is** (present) → **was** (past):

- I **am** tired. (now)
- Where **is** Ann? (now)
- The weather **is** good today.

I **was** tired **last night**.  
Where **was** Ann **yesterday**?  
The weather **was** good **last week**.

**are** (present) → **were** (past):

- You **are** late. (now)
- They **aren't** here. (now)

You **were** late **yesterday**.  
They **weren't** here **last Sunday**.

positive

I he she it	<b>was</b>
we you they	<b>were</b>

negative

I he she it	<b>was not (wasn't)</b>
we you they	<b>were not (weren't)</b>

question

<b>was</b>	I? he? she? it?
<b>were</b>	we? you? they?

- Last year Rachel **was** 22, so she **is** 23 now.
- When I **was** a child, I **was** afraid of dogs.
- We **were** hungry after the journey but we **weren't** tired.
- The hotel **was** comfortable but it **wasn't** expensive.
- **Was** the weather good when you were on holiday?

A



**wasn't** at work.

He **was** in bed.  
He **was** asleep.

**am/is** (present) → **was** (past):

- I **am** tired. (now)
- Where **is** Ann? (now)
- The weather **is** good today.

I **was** tired **last night**.  
Where **was** Ann **yesterday**?  
The weather **was** good **last week**.

**are** (present) → **were** (past):

- You **are** late. (now)
- They **aren't** here. (now)

You **were** late **yesterday**.  
They **weren't** here **last Sunday**.

B

positive

I he she it	<b>was</b>
we you they	<b>were</b>

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I he she it	<b>was not (wasn't)</b>
we you they	<b>were not (weren't)</b>

question

<b>was</b>	I? he? she? it?
<b>were</b>	we? you? they?

- Last year Rachel **was** 22, so she **is** 23 now.
- When I **was** a child, I **was** afraid of dogs.
- We **were** hungry after the journey but we **weren't** tired.
- The hotel **was** comfortable but it **wasn't** expensive.
- **Was** the weather good when you **were** on holiday?
- Those shoes are nice. **Were** they expensive?
- Why **were** you late this morning?

C

short answers

Yes,	I/he/she/it <b>was</b> .
	we/you/they <b>were</b> .

No,	I/he/she/it <b>wasn't</b> .
	we/you/they <b>weren't</b> .

- **'Were you late?'** 'No, I **wasn't**.'
- **'Was Ted at work yesterday?'** 'Yes, **he was**.'
- **'Were Sue and Steve at the party?'** 'No, they **weren't**.'



- 3 I ..... hungry. Can I have something to eat?
- 4 I feel fine this morning but I ..... very tired last night.
- 5 Where ..... you at 11 o'clock last Friday morning?
- 6 Don't buy those shoes. They ..... very expensive.
- 7 I like your new jacket. .... it expensive?
- 8 This time last year I ..... in Paris.
- 9 'Where ..... the children?' 'I don't know. They ..... in the garden ten minutes ago.'

**10.3** Put in **was/were** or **wasn't/weren't**.

- 1 We weren't happy with the hotel. Our room was very small and it wasn't very clean.
- 2 George ..... at work last week because he ..... ill. He's better now.
- 3 Yesterday ..... a public holiday so the shops ..... closed. They're open today.
- 4 '..... Sue and Bill at the party?' 'Sue ..... there but Bill .....
- 5 'Where are my keys?' 'I don't know. They ..... on the table but they're not there now.'
- 6 You ..... at home last night. Where ..... you?

**10.4** Write the questions. Use the words in brackets (...) in the correct order + **was/were**.

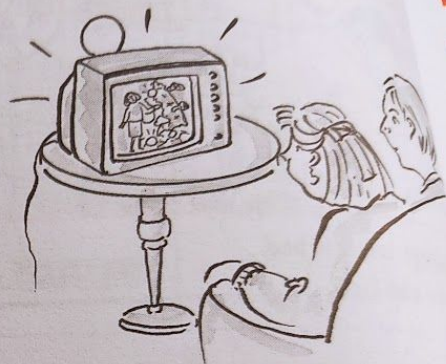
- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 (late / you / this morning / why?)<br/><u>Why were you late this morning?</u></li> <li>2 (difficult / your exam?)<br/>.....</li> <li>3 (last week / where / Ann and Chris?)<br/>.....</li> <li>4 (your new camera / how much?)<br/>.....</li> <li>5 (angry / you / yesterday / why?)<br/>.....</li> <li>6 (nice / the weather / last week?)<br/>.....</li> </ol> | <p>→ The traffic was bad.</p> <p>→ No, it was easy.</p> <p>→ They were on holiday.</p> <p>→ Sixty pounds.</p> <p>→ Because you were late.</p> <p>→ Yes, it was beautiful.</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**A** They **watch** television every evening.  
(present simple)

They **watched** television yesterday evening.  
(past simple)

**watched** is the past simple:

I/we/you/they he/she/it	<b>watched</b>
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**B** The past simple is often **-ed** (*regular verbs*). For example:

work → **worked**

clean → **cleaned**

start → **started**

stay → **stayed**

arrive → **arrived**

dance → **danced**

- I clean my teeth every morning. This morning I **cleaned** my teeth.
- Terry **worked** in a bank from 1986 to 1993.
- Yesterday it **rained** all morning. It **stopped** at lunchtime.
- We **enjoyed** the party last night. We **danced** a lot and **talked** to a lot of people. The party **finished** at midnight.

Spelling (⇒ Appendix 5):

try → **tried**

study → **studied**

copy → **copied**

stop → **stopped**

plan → **planned**

Some verbs are *irregular* (= not regular). The

**B** The past simple is often used for actions that started and finished in the past.

work → worked    clean → cleaned    start → started  
 stay → stayed    arrive → arrived    dance → danced

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**C** Some verbs are *irregular* (= not regular). The past simple is *not -ed*. Here are some important irregular verbs (see also Appendix 2-3):

begin → <b>began</b>	fall → <b>fell</b>	leave → <b>left</b>	sell → <b>sold</b>
break → <b>broke</b>	find → <b>found</b>	lose → <b>lost</b>	sit → <b>sat</b>
bring → <b>brought</b>	fly → <b>flew</b>	make → <b>made</b>	sleep → <b>slept</b>
build → <b>built</b>	forget → <b>forgot</b>	meet → <b>met</b>	speak → <b>spoke</b>
buy → <b>bought</b>	get → <b>got</b>	pay → <b>paid</b>	stand → <b>stood</b>
catch → <b>caught</b>	give → <b>gave</b>	put → <b>put</b>	take → <b>took</b>
come → <b>came</b>	go → <b>went</b>	read → <b>read</b> /red/*	tell → <b>told</b>
do → <b>did</b>	have → <b>had</b>	ring → <b>rang</b>	think → <b>thought</b>
drink → <b>drank</b>	hear → <b>heard</b>	say → <b>said</b>	win → <b>won</b>
eat → <b>ate</b>	know → <b>knew</b>	see → <b>saw</b>	write → <b>wrote</b>

\* pronunciation

- I usually get up early but this morning I **got** up at 9.30.
- We **did** a lot of work yesterday.
- Caroline **went** to the cinema three times last week.
- Jim **came** into the room, **took** off his coat and **sat** down.

**B** The past simple is often used for:

work → worked    clean → cleaned    start → started  
 stay → stayed    arrive → arrived    dance → danced

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- Yesterday it **rained** all morning. It **stopped** at lunchtime.
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- I usually get up early but this morning I **got** up at 9.30.
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## EXERCISES

UNIT  
11

11.1 Complete the sentences. Use one of these verbs in the past simple:

~~clean~~ die enjoy finish happen open rain start stay want

- 1 I cleaned my teeth three times yesterday.
- 2 It was hot in the room, so I ..... the window.
- 3 The concert ..... at 7.30 and ..... at 10 o'clock.
- 4 When I was a child, I ..... to be a doctor.
- 5 The accident ..... last Sunday afternoon.
- 6 It's a nice day today but yesterday it ..... all day.
- 7 We ..... our holiday last year. We ..... at a very nice place.
- 8 Ann's grandfather ..... when he was 90 years old.

11.2 Write the past simple of these verbs.

- |                  |               |               |                |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1 get <u>got</u> | 4 pay .....   | 7 go .....    | 10 know .....  |
| 2 see .....      | 5 visit ..... | 8 think ..... | 11 put .....   |
| 3 play .....     | 6 buy .....   | 9 copy .....  | 12 speak ..... |

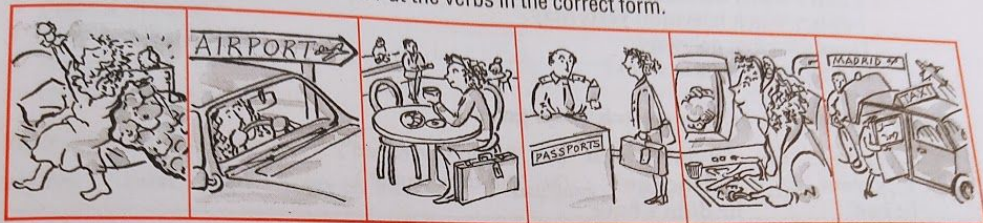
11.3 Read about Lisa's journey to Madrid. Put the verbs in the correct form.



fly, get

- |              |               |               |                |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 3 play ..... | 5 visit ..... | 8 think ..... | 10 know .....  |
| 6 buy .....  | 7 .....       | 9 copy .....  | 11 put .....   |
|              |               |               | 12 speak ..... |

**11.3** Read about Lisa's journey to Madrid. Put the verbs in the correct form.



Last Tuesday Lisa (1) flew from London to Madrid. She (2) ..... up at six o'clock in the morning and (3) ..... a cup of coffee. At 6.30 she (4) ..... home and (5) ..... to the airport. When she (6) ....., she (7) ..... the car and then (8) ..... to the airport café where she (9) ..... breakfast. Then she (10) ..... through passport control and (11) ..... for her flight. The plane (12) ..... on time and (13) ..... in Madrid two hours later. Finally she (14) ..... a taxi from the airport to her hotel in the centre of Madrid.

- fly, get
- have
- leave, drive
- arrive, park, go
- have, go
- wait, depart
- arrive
- take

**11.4** Write sentences about the past (**yesterday / last week** etc.).

- 1 Jim always goes to work by car. Yesterday he went to work by car.
- 2 Rachel often loses her keys. She ..... last week.
- 3 Kate meets her friends every evening. She ..... yesterday evening.
- 4 I usually buy two newspapers every day. Yesterday I .....
- 5 We usually go to the cinema on Sundays. Last Sunday we .....
- 6 I eat an orange every day. Yesterday I .....
- 7 Tom always has a shower in the morning. This morning he ..... last Friday.
- 8 Our friends come to see us every Friday. They .....

**11.5** Write sentences about what you did yesterday.

- 1 I played volleyball yesterday. ....
- 4 .....
- 5 .....

**A** We use **did** in past simple negatives and questions:

infinitive	positive	negative	question						
play	I	I	<table border="1"> <tr> <td rowspan="5"><b>did</b></td> <td>I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>we</td> </tr> <tr> <td>you</td> </tr> <tr> <td>they</td> </tr> <tr> <td>he she it</td> </tr> </table>	<b>did</b>	I	we	you	they	he she it
<b>did</b>	I								
	we								
	you								
	they								
	he she it								
start	we	we							
watch	you	you							
have	they	they							
see	he	he							
do	she	she							
go	it	it							
		<b>did not</b> <b>(didn't)</b>							
			play start watch have see do go						

**B** **do/does** (present) → **did** (past):

- I **don't** watch television very often.
- I **didn't** watch television **yesterday**.
- **Does** she often go away?
- **Did** she go away **last week**?

**C** We use **did/didn't** + *infinitive* (**watch/play/go** etc.):

I **watched** but I **didn't watch** (not 'I didn't watched')  
 they **went** **did** they **go?** (not 'did they went?')  
 he **had** he **didn't have**  
 you **did** **did** you **do?**

- I **played** tennis yesterday but I **didn't win**.
- '**Did** you **do** the shopping?' 'No, I **didn't have** time.'
- We **went** to the cinema but we **didn't enjoy** the film.

## EXERCISES

Complete these

- 1 I saw Barb
- 2 They wor
- 3 We went
- 4 She had
- 5 Jack did

Write ques

- 1 I wat
- 2 I enj
- 3 I ha
- 4 I fir
- 5 I sh

What

- 1 (
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

- Does she often go away?
- Did she go away **last week**?

**C** We use **did/didn't** + infinitive (*watch/play/go etc.*):

I **watched** but I **didn't watch** (not 'I didn't watched')  
 they **went** **did** they go? (not 'did they went?')  
 he **had** he **didn't have**  
 you **did** **did** you do?

- I **played** tennis yesterday but I **didn't win**.
- '**Did you do** the shopping?' 'No, I **didn't have** time.'
- We **went** to the cinema but we **didn't enjoy** the film.

**D** Study the word order in questions:

**did** + *subject* + *infinitive*.

What	<b>Did</b>	your sister	<b>phone</b>	you?
How	<b>did</b>	you	<b>do</b>	yesterday evening?
Where	<b>did</b>	the accident	<b>happen?</b>	
	<b>did</b>	your parents	<b>go</b>	for their holiday?

**E** *short answers*

Yes,	I/we/you/they he/she/it	<b>did.</b>
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No,	I/we/you/they he/she/it	<b>didn't.</b>
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- '**Did you** see Joe yesterday?' 'No, I **didn't**.'
- '**Did it** rain on Sunday?' 'Yes, **it did**.'
- '**Did Helen** come to the party?' 'No, **she didn't**.'
- '**Did your parents** have a good holiday?' 'Yes, **they did**.'

## EXERCISES

UNIT  
12

**12.1** Complete these sentences with the verb in the negative.

- 1 I saw Barbara but I didn't see Jane.
- 2 They worked on Monday but they ..... on Tuesday.
- 3 We went to the post office but we ..... to the bank.
- 4 She had a pen but she ..... any paper.
- 5 Jack did French at school but he ..... German.

**12.2** Write questions with **Did ...?**

- 1 I watched TV last night. And you? Did you watch TV last night?
- 2 I enjoyed the party. And you? .....
- 3 I had a good holiday. And you? .....
- 4 I finished work early. And you? .....
- 5 I slept well last night. And you? .....

**12.3** What did you do yesterday? Write positive or negative sentences.

- 1 (watch TV) I watched TV. OR I didn't watch TV.
- 2 (get up before 7 o'clock) I .....
- 3 (have a shower) .....
- 4 (buy a magazine) .....
- 5 (eat meat) .....
- 6 (go to bed before 10.30) .....

**12.4** Write B's questions. Use:

arrive   cost   go   go to bed late   happen   have a nice time   stay   win

New York last month.

- 5 A: We came home by taxi.  
B: How much .....

- 3 (have a shower)
- 4 (buy a magazine)
- 5 (eat meat)
- 6 (go to bed before 10.30)

**12.4** Write B's questions. Use:

arrive    cost    go    go to bed late    happen    have a nice time    stay    win

1 A: We went to New York last month. B: Where <u>did you stay?</u> A: With some friends.	5 A: We came home by taxi. B: How much ..... ? A: Ten pounds.
2 A: I was late this morning. B: What time ..... ? A: Half past nine.	6 A: I'm tired this morning. B: ..... ? A: No, but I didn't sleep very well.
3 A: I played tennis this afternoon. B: ..... ? A: No, I lost.	7 A: We went to the beach yesterday. B: ..... ? A: Yes, it was great.
4 A: I had a nice holiday. B: Good. Where ..... ? A: To the mountains.	8 A: The window is broken. B: How ..... ? A: I don't know.

**12.5** Put the verb in the correct form – positive, negative or question.

- 1 We went to the cinema but the film wasn't very good. We didn't enjoy it. (enjoy)
- 2 Tim ..... some new clothes yesterday – two shirts, a jacket and a pullover. (buy)
- 3 '..... yesterday?' 'No, it was a nice day.' (rain)
- 4 The party wasn't very good, so we ..... long. (stay)
- 5 It was very warm in the room, so I ..... a window. (open)
- 6 'Did you go to the bank this morning?' 'No, I ..... time.' (have)
- 7 'I cut my hand this morning.' 'How ..... that?' (do)