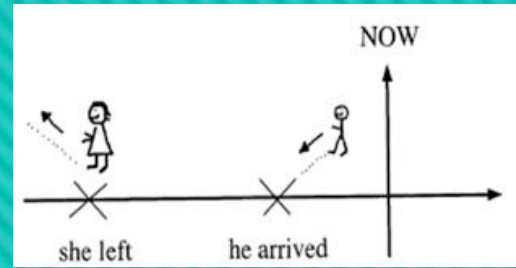


Simple Past, Past Continuous and Past Perfect

The Past Simple Tense



- ? The Past Simple Tense is used to refer to actions that were completed in a time period before the present time.
- ? In the Simple Past the process of performing the action is not important. What matters is that the action was completed in the past.
- ? The action may have been in the recent past or a long time ago.
- ? It is one of the most common tenses in spoken English.



Simple Past Tense

Using the Simple Past Tense



? The Simple Past is used for actions that started and finished at a specific time in the past. It's also possible to use the simple past in a sentence without specifying a time, but it must have previously been made clear that the speaker is referring to a finished period.

? *I saw a movie last week.*

? The Simple Past is used to describe several actions that were completed in the past.

? *I finished work, walked to the beach and met my friends.*

Using the Simple Past Tense- Cont.

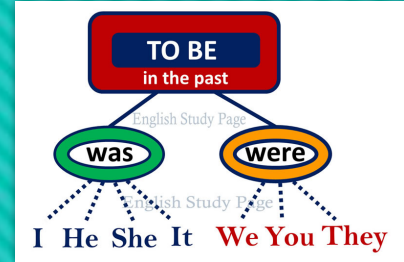
- ? The Simple Past is used to describe a process that started and finished in the past. In this case, the process of the action is long and is used by specifying time periods such as 'the whole year' or 'all day'.

? *I lived in Italy for five years.*

- ? The Simple Past can also be used in sentences that describe past habits. These sentences have the same purpose as the expression 'used to'. It should be clear in this kind of sentence that the action referred to is a habit. Time expressions like *always*, *often*, *usually* and *never* can be used to underline this.

? *I often played football when I was a young man.*

Forming the Simple Past

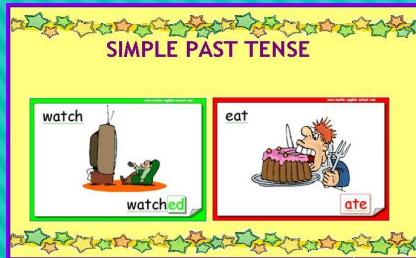


Subject	Verb <i>To be</i>	Verb <i>To have</i>	Verb <i>To do</i>
I	was	had	did
You	were	had	did
He/she/it	was	had	did
We	were	had	did
You	were	had	did
They	were	had	did

Affirmative sentences in the Simple Past

- ? In affirmative sentences the word order is subject + verb and the form of the verb in the simple past is the same for all subjects (with the exception of 'to be' – *was/were*).
- ? Subject + past simple + object
- ? For example:
 - ? *I played football yesterday.*
 - ? *He saw his family last week.*
 - ? *I was in France in June.*

Regular and Irregular Verbs



- ? In order to convert regular verbs from their base form to the simple past form, we add -ed.
- ? For irregular verbs, however, the simple past form doesn't follow this rule and can vary significantly and you simply need to learn them by heart.
- ? There are many irregular verbs but in the next slide you can find the most common ones that you need to know for daily use.

Regular verb examples

? place – placed

? dance – danced

? plan – planned

? stop – stopped

? fix – fixed

? snow – snowed

? rain – rained

? need – needed

? help – helped

? add – added

? worry – worried

? play – played

Irregular verb examples

? be – was/were

? buy – bought

? come – came

? do – did

? eat – ate

? find – found

? go – went

? have – had

? leave – left

? make – made

? pay – paid

? see – saw

? take – took

? tell – told

? write – wrote

Negative sentences in the Simple Past

- ? To make negative negative sentences in the simple past we use the auxiliary 'did not' / 'didn't' and the base form of the verb.

Subject + did not + base form of verb + object

- ? For example:

? *I didn't play football yesterday.*

? *They didn't go to the theater last month.*

? *She didn't arrive on time this morning.*

Questions in the Simple Past

- ? To make questions in the simple past we use 'did' in front of the subject and base form of the verb.

Did + subject + base form of verb + object?

- ? For example:

- ? *Did you play football yesterday?*
- ? *Did they lose the match?*
- ? *Did he clean his home last weekend?*



Past Continuous Tense

The past continuous tense

- ? The past continuous tense, also known as the past progressive tense, refers to a continuing action or state that was happening at some point in the past.
- ? The past continuous tense is formed by combining the past tense of to be (i.e., was/were) with the verb's present participle (*-ing* word).

The structure of the past continuous tense

subject	+	auxiliary <i>be</i>	+	main verb
		conjugated in Past Simple		
		was, were		present participle

The structure of the past continuous tense


- ? The auxiliary verb (be) is conjugated in the Past Simple: *was, were*
- ? The main verb is invariable in present participle form: *-ing*
- ? For negative sentences we insert **not** between the auxiliary verb and the main verb.
- ? For question sentences, we **exchange** the subject and the auxiliary verb.

Sentences with the Past Continuous tense:

	subject	auxiliary verb		main verb	
+	I	was		watching	TV.
+	You	were		working	hard.
-	He, she, it	was	not	helping	Mary.
-	We	were	not	joking.	
?	Were	you		being	silly?
?	Were	they		playing	football?

When do we use the Past Continuous tense?

- ? The Past Continuous tense expresses action at a **particular moment** in the past.
- ? The action started before that moment but has not finished at that moment. For example, yesterday I watched a film on TV. The film started at 7pm and finished at 9pm.

At 8pm yesterday, I was watching TV.		
past	present	future
 8pm		
At 8pm, I was in the middle of watching TV.		

When do we use the Past Continuous tense?

- ? When we use the Past Continuous tense, our listener usually knows or understands what time we are talking about. Look at these examples:
 - ? I **was working** at 10pm last night.
 - ? They **were** not **playing** football at 9am this morning.
 - ? What **were** you **doing** at 10pm last night?
 - ? What **were** you **doing** when he arrived?
 - ? She **was cooking** when I telephoned her.
 - ? We **were having** dinner when it started to rain.
 - ? Ram went home early because it **was snowing**.

When do we use the Past Continuous tense?

- ? We often use the Past Continuous tense to "set the scene" in stories.
 - ? We use it to describe the background situation at the moment when the action begins.
 - ? Often, the story starts with the Past Continuous tense and then moves into the Past Simple tense. Here is an example:

"James Bond **was driving** through town. It **was raining**. The wind **was blowing** hard. Nobody **was walking** in the streets. Suddenly, Bond saw the killer in a telephone box..."

When do we use the Past Continuous tense?

To show that something **continued for some time**:

- *My head **was aching**.*
- *Everyone **was shouting**.*

For something that **happened again and again**:

- *I **was practising** every day, three times a day.*
- *They **were meeting** secretly after school.*
- *They **were always quarrelling**.*

When do we use the Past Continuous tense?

? With verbs which show **change or growth**:

? *The children **were growing up** quickly.*

? *Her English **was improving**.*

? *My hair **was going** grey.*

? *The town **was changing** quickly.*

? We do **not** normally use the past continuous with **stative verbs**. We use the **past simple** instead:

? *When I got home, I really **needed** (NOT was needing) a shower.*

Past Continuous + Past Simple

- ? We often use the Past Continuous tense with the Past Simple tense.
- ? We use the Past Continuous to express a **long** action.
- ? And we use the Past Simple to express a **short** action that happens **in the middle** of the long action.
- ? We can join the two ideas with **when** or **while**.

Past Continuous + Past Simple

- ? In the following example, we have two actions:
 - ? long action (watching TV), expressed with Past Continuous
 - ? short action (telephoned), expressed with Past Simple

past	present	future
<i>long action:</i> I was watching TV from 7pm to 9pm. 		
<i>short action:</i> You phoned at 8pm.		

Past Continuous + Past Simple

- ? We can join these two actions with **when**:
 - ? I was watching TV **when** you telephoned.
- ? Notice that "when you telephoned" is also a way of defining the time (8pm).
- ? We use:
 - ? **when + short action** (Past Simple)
 - ? **while + long action** (Past Continuous)

Past Continuous + Past Simple

? There are four basic combinations:

	I was walking past the car	when	it exploded.
When	the car exploded		I was walking past it.
	The car exploded	while	I was walking past it.
While	I was walking past the car		it exploded.

Past Continuous + Past Simple

- ? Notice that the **long action** and **short action** are relative.
- ? "Watching TV" took two hours. "Telephoned" took a few seconds.
- ? "Walking past the car" took a few seconds. "Exploded" took milliseconds.



Past Perfect Tense

HOW TO FORM THE PAST PERFECT?

- We form the past perfect by using 'had' and the past participle of the verb. For example,
 - *"You had met him before."*
- To make questions we invert the auxiliary verb *had* and the subject:
 - *"Had you met him before?"*
- And to make negative forms we add 'not' to 'had':
 - *"You hadn't met him before."*
- The short answer form
 - *Yes, I had./No, I hadn't*

SET OF EXAMPLES

+	-	?
I had worked	I hadn't worked	Had I worked?
You had worked	You hadn't worked	Had you worked?
He/she/it had worked	He/she/it had worked	Had he/she/it worked?
We had worked	We hadn't worked	Had we worked?
You had worked	You hadn't worked	Had you worked?
They had worked	They hadn't worked	Had they worked?

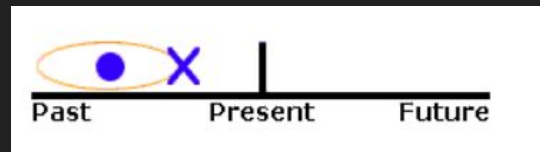
WHEN TO USE THE PAST PERFECT

- The past perfect is a verb tense which is used to show that an action took place once or many times before another point in the past.
 - *Bob was exhausted. He had worked hard all day.*
- It's common to use adverbs with the past perfect like *already, just, never, previously*. These are positioned between *had* and the past participle. We can also use *yet* with the past perfect, and put it at the end of the sentence. Here are some examples.
 - *When Miguel arrived, the party had already started.*

Past Perfect Uses

- **USE 1 Completed Action Before Something in the Past**

- The past perfect expresses the idea that something occurred before another action in the past. It can also show that something happened before a specific time in the past.
- Examples:
 - I **had** never **seen** such a beautiful beach before I went to Kauai.
 - I did not have any money because I **had lost** my wallet.

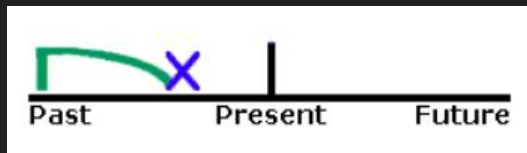


USE 1 – MORE EXAMPLES

- Tony knew Istanbul so well because he **had visited** the city several times.
- **Had** Susan ever **studied** Thai before she moved to Thailand?
- She only understood the movie because she **had read** the book.
- Kristine **had** never **been** to an opera before last night.
- We were not able to get a hotel room because we **had not booked** in advance.
- A: **Had** you ever **visited** the U.S. before your trip in 2006?
B: Yes, I **had been** to the U.S. once before.

USE 2 DURATION BEFORE SOMETHING IN THE PAST

- We use the past perfect to show that something started in the past and continued up until another action in the past.
- Examples:
 - We **had had** that car for ten years before it broke down.
 - By the time Alex finished his studies, he **had been** in London for over eight years.
 - They felt bad about selling the house because they **had owned** it for more than forty years.

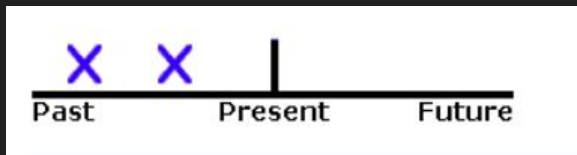


Time Expressions in the Past Perfect Simple

- The time expressions **already**, **for**, **since**, and **yet** may be used in the past perfect simple, as they are in the present perfect simple.
Remember the following rules for using other time expressions:
- Use **after**, **as soon as**, **the moment that**, **until** before using the past perfect simple.
Ex: **After** she **had moved out**, I found her notes./ I didn't say anything **until** she **had finished** talking.
- Use **before**, **when**, **by the time** before the past simple:
Ex. **Before** I **knew** it, she had run out the door. / **By the time** he **phoned** her, she had found someone new.

Important -Specific Times With The Past Perfect

- Unlike with the present perfect, it is possible to use **specific time** words or phrases with the past perfect. Although this is possible, it is usually not necessary.
- Example:
 - She **had visited** her Japanese relatives once in 1993 before she moved in with them in 1996.





Thank you!

Worksheets

<https://www.englishgrammar.org/tense-worksheet/?pdf=5823>

<https://engelsklaskaal.nl/en/english-grammar-exercises/one-english-verb-form/past-perfect-exercises/>

<https://www.english-practice.at/b1/grammar/tenses/t-024-past-simple-progressive.pdf>

<https://www.english-practice.at/b1/grammar/tenses/t-023-past-simple-progressive.pdf>