



## The Past Simple Tense (also called the simple past tense)

It's similar to the present simple because it has different rules for the verb 'be', which becomes 'was' or 'were':

### The Past Simple with 'be'

Here's how to make the **positive**:

- I **was** cold
- You **were** tired
- He **was** in the garden
- She **was** late
- It **was** sunny
- We **were** on holiday
- They **were** hungry

To make the **negative** with 'be', just add 'not':

### Negative with 'be'

- I was **not** sleepy
- You were **not** on the bus
- He was **not** at school
- She was **not** beautiful
- It was **not** cold
- We were **not** at work
- They were **not** tired

### Negative Short Form

- I wasn't sleepy
- You weren't on the bus
- He wasn't at school
- She wasn't beautiful
- It wasn't cold
- We weren't at work
- They weren't tired



To make a **question**, just like the present simple, we change the position of 'was / were' and the subject.

Here are the past simple '**yes / no**' questions with 'be':

- **Was I** sleepy?
- **Were you** late?
- **Was he** at the cinema?
- **Was she** kind?
- **Was it** hot?
- **Were we** hungry?
- **Were they** at work?

And the '**wh**' questions with 'be' (the question word just goes at the beginning, everything else is the same):

- Why **was I** sleepy?
- Where **were you**?
- When **was he** at the cinema?
- How **was she**?
- How **was it**?
- Why **were we** hungry?
- When **were they** at work?



## The Past Simple (Simple Past) with Other Verbs

We make the past simple just like the present simple except we use 'did' instead of 'do / does'. It's really easy because 'did' doesn't change, even with 'he / she / it'.

### The positive

We usually make the positive by adding '-ed' to the infinitive. For example, 'play' becomes 'played'. However, there are some **irregular verbs**, for example 'go' becomes 'went' and 'run' becomes 'ran'.

- I **walked** (regular)
- You **played** (regular)
- He **cooked** (regular)
- She **listened** (regular)
- It **rained** (regular)
- We **ate** (irregular)
- They **drank** (irregular)

### The negative

In the negative there aren't any irregular verbs. All verbs use 'did not (didn't) + infinitive':

#### Negative

- I **did not** walk
- You **did not** play
- He **did not** cook
- She **did not** listen
- It **did not** rain
- We **did not** eat
- They **did not** drink

#### Negative Short Form

- I **didn't** walk
- You **didn't** play
- He **didn't** cook
- She **didn't** listen
- It **didn't** rain
- We **didn't** eat
- They **didn't** drink



## Questions

Questions are also very easy. Just put 'did' before the subject, and the infinitive after it.

Here are the '**yes / no**' questions:

- **Did I walk?**
- **Did you play?**
- **Did he cook?**
- **Did she listen?**
- **Did it rain?**
- **Did we eat?**
- **Did they drink?**

To make a '**wh**' question, of course, put the question word at the beginning of the sentence:

- Where **did I go?**
- What **did you play?**
- What **did he cook?**
- Why **did she listen?**
- When **did it rain?**
- Where **did we eat?**
- How **did they travel?**