5

5A simple past of *be*: was / were

[+]

I	was	
You	were	
He / She / It	was	famous.
We	were	
You	were	
They	were	

[−]

I	wasn't	
You	weren't	
He / She / It	wasn't	famous.
We	weren't	
You	weren't	
They	weren't	

- **Contractions**: *wasn't = was not, weren't = were not.*
- Use *was / were* to talk about the past.
  My grandfather **was** *born in Bangkok.*

[?] / **[✔]** / **[✗]**

Was	I			I **was.**		I **wasn't.**
Were	you			you **were.**		you **weren't.**
Was	he / she / it	famous?	Yes,	he / she / it **was.**	No,	he / she / it **wasn't.**
Were	we			we **were.**		we **weren't.**
Were	you			you **were.**		you **weren't.**
Were	they			they **were.**		they **weren't.**

5B simple past: regular verbs

[+]

I	
You	
He / She / It	**worked**
We	yesterday.
You	
They	

[−]

I	
You	
He / She / It	**didn't work**
We	yesterday.
You	
They	

spelling rules for regular verbs

Base form	Past	Spelling
watch play	watch**ed** play**ed**	add -*ed*
live smoke	live**d** smoke**d**	add -*d*
stop	stop**ped**	one-syllable verbs: one vowel + one consonant = double consonant
study	stud**ied**	consonant + *y* > *ied*

[?] / **[✔]** / **[✗]**
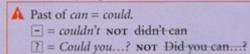
Did	I you he / she / it we you they	**work** yesterday?	Yes,	I you he / she / it we you they	**did.**	No,	I you he / she / it we you they	**didn't.**

- **Contraction**: *didn't = did not.*
- Use the simple past for finished actions.
- Regular verbs in the past [+] end in -*ed*,
  e.g., *worked, lived, played.*
- The past is the same for all persons.
- Use *did / didn't* + base form for
  past [?] and [−].

5C simple past: irregular verbs

Base form	Past [+]	Past [−]
go	went	didn't go
have	had	didn't have
get	got	didn't get
buy	bought	didn't buy
leave	left	didn't leave
drive	drove	didn't drive
meet	met	didn't meet
see	saw	didn't see
wear	wore	didn't wear
do	did	didn't do

- Use the irregular past form only in [+] sentences.
  I **saw** *a movie last night.*
- Use the base form after *did / didn't.*
  Did *you* **see** *a movie last night?* NOT *Did you saw…?*
- Remember the word order:
  auxiliary, subject, base form or
  question word, auxiliary, subject, base form.
  Did you go out last night?
  Where did you go?

⚠ Past of *can = could.*
  [−] = *couldn't* NOT *didn't can*
  [?] = *Could you…?* NOT *Did you can…?*

5A

a Change the sentences from present to past.

Simple present	Simple past
I'm tired.	I _was_ tired last week.
1 Today is Sunday.	Yesterday _____ Saturday.
2 Where are you now?	Where _____ you yesterday?
3 We are in Munich today.	We _____ in Berlin yesterday.
4 I'm in Mexico this month.	I _____ in Brazil last month.
5 My father's a pilot.	My grandfather _____ a pilot, too.
6 It isn't open now.	It _____ open this morning.
7 Why aren't you at work today?	Why _____ you at work yesterday?

b Complete the dialogues with *was, wasn't, were,* or *weren't.*

A _Were_ you and Susan at the party last night?
B Yes, we [1] _____.
A [2] _____ it good?
B No, it [3] _____. The music [4] _____ awful. Where [5] _____ you?
A I [6] _____ sick.

A Where [7] _____ you born?
B I [8] _____ born in Australia in 1919.
A [9] _____ your parents Australian?
B No, they [10] _____. My mother [11] _____ Italian and my father [12] _____ Greek.

5B

a Rewrite the sentences in the simple past with *yesterday.*

Present	Past
I use the Internet.	_I used the Internet yesterday._
1 I watch TV.	_____
2 Do you listen to the radio?	_____
3 We study English.	_____
4 He doesn't work.	_____
5 The movie ends at 7:00.	_____
6 I don't like the movie.	_____
7 Does she smoke?	_____
8 They play tennis.	_____

b Complete the sentences with a verb in the simple past.

arrive	not wait	land	live	stay
not remember		turn on	want	watch

I _turned on_ the TV.
1 We _____ in a three-star hotel last year.
2 We were late and they _____ for us.
3 _____ you _____ tennis on TV last night?
4 Sorry. I _____ it was your birthday yesterday.
5 I _____ with my parents when I was a student.
6 Why _____ you _____ to be a doctor?
7 He _____ late for work and the boss was angry.
8 When the plane _____ she _____ her cell phone.

5C

a Complete the text with the verbs in parentheses in the simple past.

Yesterday _was_ my birthday. (be)
My boyfriend [1] _____ me a beautiful jacket. (buy)
In the evening we [2] _____ out. (go)
I [3] _____ my new jacket. (wear)
We [4] _____ for a Chinese restaurant (look)
but we [5] _____ find one, (not can)
so we [6] _____ dinner at our favorite Thai restaurant. (have)
After that we [7] _____ a movie. (see)
Then we [8] _____ two friends at a nightclub. (meet)
We [9] _____ for two hours. (dance)
We [10] _____ home until 3:00. (not get)
I [11] _____ very tired, (be)
and I [12] _____ straight to bed. (go)

b Complete the questions in the simple past.

Did you go out last night? (you / go out)
1 What _____? (you / wear)
2 Where _____? (you / go)
3 What _____? (you / do)
4 _____ with you? (your sister / go)
5 What _____ to eat? (you / have)
6 What time _____? (the party / end)
7 What time _____? (you / get home)
8 _____ a good time? (you / have)