

GRAMMAR

Reviewing the past simple

LEVEL

Elementary (A2)

NUMBER

EN_A2_1053G

LANGUAGE

English



Learning outcomes

- I can form simple wh- and yes/no questions in the past simple.
- I can correctly form the past tense of common irregular verbs, including 'to be'.



Warm-up

Say two things that you **usually** do as part of your daily routine. Then say two things that you did **yesterday**. You can use the verbs in the red box to help you.



Usually, I...



Yesterday, I...

- | | |
|--------|---------|
| ● get | ● see |
| ● eat | ● have |
| ● go | ● read |
| ● take | ● sleep |



Review of the past simple

- Many verbs → **add -ed** to the end of the verb
- Verbs that end in **-y** → change to **-ied** in the past simple

present	past
rent	rent ed
walk	walk ed
cook	cook ed
cry	cri ed

Review of irregular verbs and the past simple

- Many verbs about everyday actions are **irregular** and have a **different form** in the past.

buy	→	bought
teach	→	taught
eat	→	ate
sleep	→	slept
drink	→	drank
sing	→	sang



Make two lists

Regular verbs

Irregular verbs



to buy



to eat



to drink



to play



to sleep



to sing



to read



to like



Say the past simple of these irregular verbs

buy

drink

swim

run

sell

eat

fly

sing

think



Match the sentences

1 I rented an apartment last year.

2 I ate eggs and toast for breakfast.

3 I wanted to buy a red car.

4 Did you sell your computer?

a Instead, I bought a blue one.

b I don't see it in your office.

c Now I am buying a new house.

d For dinner, I would like meat and potatoes.

Find the mistakes

There are **7 mistakes** with past tenses. Can you find them?

I had a great day yesterday. I woke up early and I eat cereal for breakfast and I dranked milk. After that I was read a bit of my book but I didn't liked it very much so I didn't read for long. I went out to the shops and I buyed some vegetables for dinner. I met with my friends and we played football in the park. We also went to a karaoke bar and I sung a lot. After that I was really tired so I was sleep at 10pm.





Was and were

Fill in the blanks with **was** or **were**.

1 I _____.

2 You _____.

3 He, she, it _____.

4 We _____.

5 You _____.

6 They _____.

Was and **were** are both the past simple forms of *to be*.

Was is used with the 1st person singular (*I*) and 3rd person singular (*he, she, or it*).

Were is used with all other forms.



Complete the table with *was* or *were*

I _____ happy.

There _____ two windows.

She _____ angry with me.

They _____ late yesterday.

It _____ a beautiful house.

The new kitchen _____ expensive.

The bedroom _____ disappointing.

There _____ some problems with the
roof.

You _____ upset.

Asking questions in the past simple

- To ask questions in the past, use **did** (the past simple of the verb do) or **was**.
- Put question words like *what*, *why*, *how*, *where* or *when* at the start of the question.

question word	did + subject	verb
--	Did you	eat?
--	Did she	hear you?
How	did you	make that?
Where	were you	born?
Why	was I	late?



Fill in the dialogue with a correct word



Hi Melanie! _____ are you doing?



I'm great! I _____ to a new neighbourhood. I bought a house!



Great! When _____ you move?



Write a question from each statement

1 I moved to a new neighbourhood.



Where did you move?

2 I bought a house.



3 I paid a lot of rent every month in my last apartment.



4 I had to pay a deposit for the house.



5 I was excited to move in.



6 I didn't like my old landlord.







Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with the correct form of *do* or *be*.

Ask and answer the questions with a classmate.

You can do this activity **in breakout rooms** or **as a class**.

- 1 When _____ you start learning English?
- 2 What _____ you like when you were a child? (your personality)
- 3 What games _____ you play when you were a child?
- 4 Where _____ you meet your best friend?
- 5 Where _____ you yesterday?



Guess the holiday

Ask a classmate or your teacher **five questions** about a **past holiday** and try to guess where he or she was on holiday.



***Did you go** to the city, the beach or the mountains?*

***Were there** any famous monuments?*

*What language **did** people **speak** there?*



End of the lesson

Idiom

move with the times

Meaning: to change ideas or behaviours as the world changes

Example: She still doesn't own a mobile phone. She never moves with the times!



Additional practice



About you



What did you do...

last night?

yesterday morning?

in your last English
class?

at the weekend?



Write each sentence in the past

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1 | You carry boxes. | > | You carried boxes. |
| 2 | She is moving in. | > | _____ |
| 3 | We are signing a contract. | > | _____ |
| 4 | He pays the landlord. | > | _____ |
| 5 | My house is much bigger. | > | _____ |
| 6 | I have a large bedroom. | > | _____ |
| 7 | They buy a house. | > | _____ |
| 8 | I am moving to a new house. | > | _____ |





Writing

Write a short text about an event you went to recently.

Where was it? Who did you go with?
Was it fun or boring?

Share your text with the class.





Answer key

P.6: Regular: played, liked Irregular: buy, eat, drink, sleep, sing, read

P.8: 1. c 2. d 3. a 4. b

P.9:

Eat = ate, drank = drank, I was read = I read, didn't liked = didn't like, bought – bought, sung = sang, was sleep = slept

P.10: 1. was 2. were 3. was 4. were 5. were 6. were

P.11:

I was happy.

There were two windows.

She was angry with me.

They were late yesterday.

It was a beautiful house.

The new kitchen was expensive.

The bedroom was disappointing.

There were some problems with the roof.

You were upset.



Answer key

P.13: 1. How 2. moved 3. did

P.14:

(possible answers)

2. What did you buy?
3. How much do you pay in rent?
4. Do you have to pay a deposit?
5. Are you excited to move in?
6. Why did you move?

P.15:

1. did 2. were 3. did 4. did 5. were

P.21:

2. She was moving in 3. We were signing a contract 4. He paid the landlord 5. My house was much bigger 6. I had a large bedroom 7. They bought a house 8. I was moving to a new house.



Summary

Reviewing the past simple:

- Many verbs: **add -ed** to the end of the verb → *rent - rented*
- Verbs ending in -y: **add -ied** → *cry - cried*
- Irregular verbs: *buy - **bought***; *teach - **taught***; *eat - **ate***; *sleep - **slept***; *drink - **drank***; *sing - **sang***

Was and were in the past simple:

- **Was** and **were** are the past simple forms of *to be*.
- **Was** is used with the first person singular (*I*) and the third person singular (*he, she, or it*).
- **Were** is used with all other forms.

Asking questions in the past simple:

- Use **did** + **infinitive** or **was**.
- Put **question words** like *what, why, how, where* or *when* at the start of the question.
- *Did you eat? Where were you born?*



Vocabulary

bought

taught

ate

slept

drank

sang

