

READING

# Getting ready to celebrate

**LEVEL**

Beginner (A1)

**NUMBER**

EN\_A1\_2114R

**LANGUAGE**

English



## Learning outcomes

- I can read a short text about celebrations.
- I can identify some common regular and irregular verbs in the past simple.





We **were** on holiday and  
**travelled** abroad. Now,  
it's time to celebrate!





# Vocabulary review





# Vocabulary review



He **bought** some groceries.

He **smiled** and **laughed**.





# Vocabulary review



She **smiled** because she **was** on holiday.

They **were** excited to be at the beach.



My friend **went** to Thailand on holiday.

We **met** and he **had** a gift for me.



# Getting ready to celebrate

Steve is back from his holiday, and he is in his bathroom getting ready to go out. He had a great time in Thailand, and he is meeting his friends for dinner. They have a few things to celebrate. Tom and Sarah wanted to welcome him back to Vancouver, and it's Sarah's birthday today. Tom is in the living room. He is waiting for Steve to get ready.

Steve is fixing his hair in the mirror. He looks at his tan and smiles. He was very pale before his holiday, and he thinks he looks better now. It was nice to have some sun. He can hear the rain outside, and he misses Thailand a little.





# True or false?

		True	False
1	Steve is meeting his friends for dinner.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	It is not Steve's birthday.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Steve was in India on holiday.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Steve is sad because he looks bad now.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Steve doesn't miss Thailand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>





# Match the words to the places

1



2



3



4



**a** They had a large party.

**b** He was in Thailand.

**c** He bought her a gift.

**d** We went to the beach.

# What is the past simple?

to buy

to have

to be

to smile



# Getting ready to celebrate

‘So you enjoyed your trip to Thailand?’ asks Tom.

‘It was a lot of fun. And I came back with this tan, it looks good, right?’ responds Steve.

‘Yeah, you look great. You were working too much. I’m glad you went on holiday and had some fun,’ says Tom.

‘It was nice to go somewhere just for fun, and not for work,’ says Steve.

Tom smiles and reminds him that they were supposed to leave five minutes ago. Steve looks nervous. He goes to the cupboard and pulls out a box.

‘Do you think this is a good birthday gift? I bought it for her in Thailand,’ he asks Tom.

Tom stops him. Steve worries too much.

‘You worry too much, Steve. I don’t have to see it. I’m sure it is great. Let’s go and meet Sarah at the restaurant, we are late!’





# Categorise the verbs

1. Are these verbs **regular** or **irregular** in the past simple?
2. Work with a partner in a breakout room or together as a class.



1

to have

2

to be

3

to eat

4

to enjoy

5

to smile

6

to buy

7

to run

8

to travel

**Regular verbs**

**Irregular verbs**



# Match the sentences

**1** He was very happy that...

**2** She was...

**3** He smiled...

**4** We had...

**5** I went on holiday...

**a** excited to see him.

**b** for fun, not for work.

**c** he was home again.

**d** because he was meeting his friends.

**e** some gifts for you.



# Transform the sentences to past simple

1 I go on holiday.



I went on holiday.

2 I have fun with my friends.



3 We are going to dinner.



4 I am travelling abroad.



5 We buy souvenirs.



6 She likes going to the beach.





# Pronounce these past simple verbs

wanted

bought

were

went



# Dictogloss

Your teacher is going to read to you. **Write** down what you hear your teacher say.

A large, white rectangular area with horizontal lines, intended for writing. It has a folded top-left corner and is set against a light blue background.



# How did your grandparents meet?

We met forty years ago, today. It was a Saturday, and I was walking home from the shop with a paper bag full of groceries. It was a sunny day, and I was wearing a dress and sunglasses.

Then I saw your grandfather cycling on the other side of the street. He smiled at me and I smiled back, but I tripped over a stone and dropped my groceries all over the floor. Your grandfather came over to me straightaway. He helped me pick them up.

The paper bag ripped when I fell. He told me to put the groceries into the basket on his bike. Then I got on the bike with him and he cycled me home.

When we arrived, he said: 'You should really watch where you're going!' and we both laughed.

The next day he came back to my house. He brought some chocolate croissants that I forgot to take out of his basket. I invited him in for some breakfast and we ate the chocolate croissants together with some fruit and coffee.





Your grandfather  
came over to me  
**straightaway**.

**Straightaway** means **immediately**.

# How did your grandparents meet?

We talked all morning, so I asked him if he wanted to eat some lunch. He said that he would love to; so, we ate lunch together too.

We continued talking and laughing all afternoon, and soon it was time for dinner. Your grandfather suggested that we go to a restaurant for dinner. We went to a beautiful Italian restaurant and ate the most delicious pizza.

We are still together today, and we still go to the same restaurant every year for our anniversary. This year, we bought a tandem bicycle and rode it down the same street where we met all those years ago.

Your grandfather always says that he is really glad that I tripped on that sunny day, and that he found the chocolate croissants in his basket too!

1. Go back through the text and pick out all of the verbs used in the past simple.
2. Can you retell the story in your own words?



# End of the lesson

Idiom

***social butterfly***

**Meaning:** a person who likes to talk to other people at social events

**Example:** Clara is such a social butterfly. She talks to everyone at parties!



# Additional practice



# Transform the sentences to the past simple

1 I walk.



I walked.

2 He is excited.



3 They are happy.



4 He smiles.



5 They have dinner.



6 It is her birthday.



# Unscramble



having a

birthday

celebrated her

by

We

party.



but I

I had

holiday,

a great

to be home.

was happy





# Coming home

**Were you happy to be home after your last holiday?**



**How do you usually feel when you come home from a holiday?**





# Writing

Write **five sentences** about how you **met** an **important person** in your life.  
*I met my best friend Lorna when we were at school...*



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# Answer key

**P.8:** 1) True, 2) True, 3) False, 4) False, 5 )False

**P.9:** 1) c, 2) a, 3) d, 4) b

**P.10:** to buy/bought, to have/had, to be/was/were, to smile/smiled

**P.12:** Regular: to enjoy, to smile, to travel. Irregular: to have, to eat, to be, to buy, to run

**P.13:** 1) c, 2) a, 3) d, 4) e, 5) b

**P.14:** 2) I had fun with my friends. 3) We went to dinner. 4) I travelled abroad. 5) We bought souvenirs. 6) She liked going to the beach.



## Answer key

**P.16:**

'So you enjoyed your trip to Thailand?' asks Tom.

'It was a lot of fun. And I came back with this tan, it looks good, right?' responds Steve.

'Yeah, you look great. You were working too much. I'm glad you went on holiday and had some fun,' says Tom.

'It was nice to go somewhere just for fun, and not for work,' says Steve.



# Answer key



**P.23:** 2) He was excited. 3) They were happy. 4) He smiled. 5) They had dinner. 6) It was her birthday.

**P.24:** We celebrated her birthday by having a party. I had a great holiday, but I was happy to be home.



# Summary

## Reading a text:

- Understanding a text about celebrations with verbs in the past simple.

## Identifying regular and irregular past simple verbs:

- Finding verbs in texts and practising using them in the past simple, e.g. *smiled, bought, was, were, wanted, had, met, went*.



# Vocabulary

smiled

went

were

wanted

bought

had

was

met



## Notes

