

GRAMMAR

# Irregular verbs in the past simple

**LEVEL**

Elementary (A2)

**NUMBER**

EN\_A2\_1083G

**LANGUAGE**

English



## Learning outcomes

- I can correctly produce the past simple forms of some common irregular verbs.
- I can use a range of irregular verbs when talking about the past.

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went



Sophie **went** to the cinema with her friends.

saw



I **saw** a play at the theatre last week.

did



Tina finished her dinner and **did** the washing up.





Tina finished her dinner  
and **did the dishes**.

We can also say **did/washed the dishes**  
instead of **did the washing up**.

had



I **had** a great time in Spain on holiday.



# Past simple forms

**Read** the explanation and examples.

- Use **the past simple** to talk about actions, events or states that **finished** in the past.

Verb	Past simple
go	I <b>went</b> to the pool on Saturday.
see	I <b>saw</b> you in the park last week.
do	I <b>did</b> my English homework last night.
have	I <b>had</b> a nice time at the concert.





# Past simple questions

**Read** the explanation and examples.

- Use **did** + subject + bare **infinitive** of the **main verb** to form questions in the past simple.

Past simple	Past simple question
went	Where <b>did</b> you <b>go</b> ?
saw	What <b>did</b> you <b>see</b> ?
did	What <b>did</b> you <b>do</b> ?
had	<b>Did</b> you <b>have</b> a good holiday?



# What's the past simple of these verbs?

move

see

play

go

talk

work

do

watch

rest

have



# Fill in the gaps

1. Last weekend, I \_\_\_\_\_ (**go**) to the cinema.
2. We \_\_\_\_\_ (**watch**) a horror movie.
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ (**see**) my friends there.
4. I \_\_\_\_\_ (**talk**) to my girlfriend on the phone.
5. What \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (**do**) last weekend?
6. \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (**have**) a nice time?





# Irregular verbs

- Here are some more **irregular** verbs in the **past simple**.

Verb	Past simple
begin	The show <b>began</b> at 7 p.m. last night.
come	I <b>came</b> home from work at 6 p.m.
get	My sister <b>got</b> a new car last week.
leave	We <b>left</b> the U.K. in 2019.
meet	They <b>met</b> the President last month.
say	I <b>said</b> nothing in yesterday's meeting.
take	We <b>took</b> our children to the park last week.



## Choose the correct verb

- 1 My friends \_\_\_\_\_ from New York to London to visit me.
- 2 I \_\_\_\_\_ them at the airport. They were so surprised!
- 3 I \_\_\_\_\_ them straight to my flat to drop their bags off.
- 4 We had tickets to a concert. It \_\_\_\_\_ at 9 p.m. that evening.
- 5 The next day, they \_\_\_\_\_ lots of new clothes on Oxford Street.
- 6 They \_\_\_\_\_ London yesterday. Now they are back in the U.S.

began  
took  
left  
got  
came  
met





# Complete the table

go

\_\_\_\_\_

have

\_\_\_\_\_

began

come

\_\_\_\_\_

leave

\_\_\_\_\_

met

see

\_\_\_\_\_

do

\_\_\_\_\_

take

\_\_\_\_\_



# Fill in the gaps

Choose the correct verb. Then **ask** and **answer** the questions in breakout rooms or as a class.



What did you \_\_\_\_\_ for your last birthday?

Which singers did you \_\_\_\_\_ in concert last year?



Did you \_\_\_\_\_ anyone for coffee last weekend?

What time did you \_\_\_\_\_ the office yesterday?



meet

leave

do

see



# Irregular verbs

- Here are some more **irregular** verbs in the **past simple**.

Verb	Past simple
choose	I <b>chose</b> the nicest dress at the shop.
fall	He <b>fell</b> off his bike.
find	She <b>found</b> a £10 note on the floor.
lose	We <b>lost</b> the football match last week.
tell	They <b>told</b> us about their new house.
win	He <b>won</b> the lottery last month.



# Transform the sentences

1 I **go** to the museum.



I **went** to the museum.

2 I **meet** my friends.



3 She **tells** me everything.



4 I **come** to school by bus.



5 The class **begins** at 7pm.



6 We **win** every competition.





# Complete the sentences

**Make** each sentence true for you. **Use** the verb in the brackets.

1 Last week I [see]...

2 Last month I [meet]...

3 Last December I [find]...

4 Last year I [lose]...

5 When I was 10 I [win]...







# Tell a classmate what you did last weekend

Use the words below to help you.



went

met

had

did

saw

won

told

took

said



# Game

**Choose** a verb. Your partner must **say** a sentence in the **past simple**.



**Student A**

**I choose the  
verb 'win'.**

**I won a prize  
for singing  
when I was  
younger!**



**Student B**

do  
see  
go  
have

begin  
come  
get  
leave

meet  
say  
take  
choose  
fall

find  
lose  
tell  
win



# End of the lesson

Idiom

***(racing) against the clock***

**Meaning:** before a certain time, or within the allowed time

**Example:** I was racing against the clock to finish my exam before the end of class.



# Additional practice





# Regular or irregular?



Regular  
past simple

Irregular  
past simple

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go

meet

visit

begin

listen

get

come

take

talk

say





# Complete the sentences

Use the verb in parentheses.



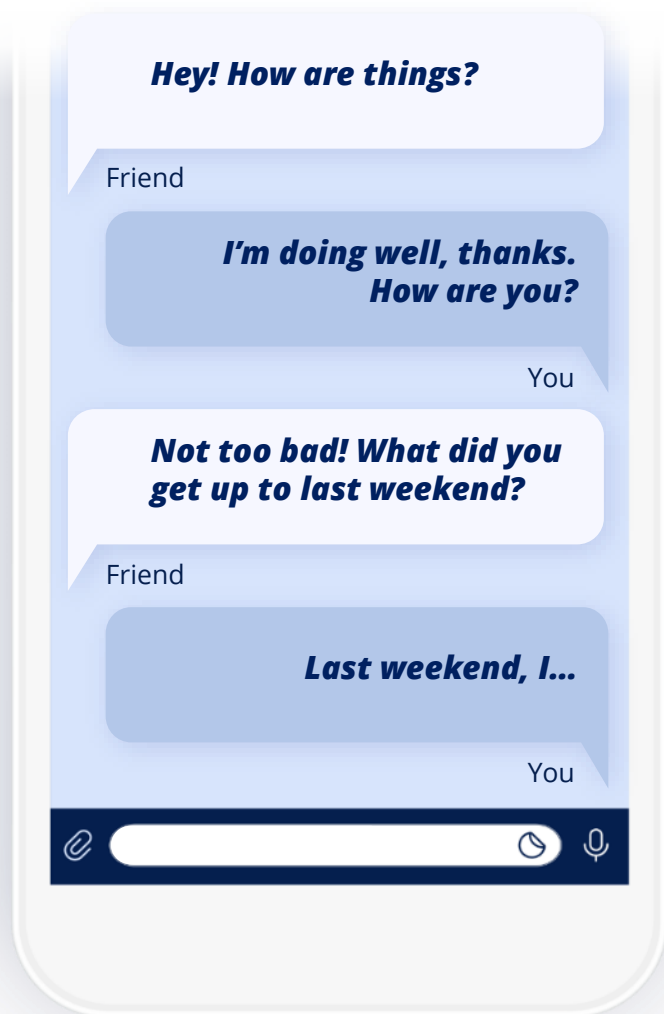
- 1 Last Saturday, I \_\_\_\_\_ (*go*) to a fantastic exhibition at a local gallery.
- 2 We \_\_\_\_\_ (*see*) a Spanish rock band in concert last week. They were amazing!
- 3 For my last birthday, my husband \_\_\_\_\_ (*take*) me to Las Vegas.
- 4 My parents \_\_\_\_\_ (*come*) to visit me in autumn last year.
- 5 My brother \_\_\_\_\_ (*leave*) Australia in 2015 to work in China.



# Writing



**Write** a short text to your friend in reply.



Did you go to a concert or a museum?

Did you go shopping or see a friend of yours?

Did you do jobs around the house?



# Answer key

**P. 10:** saw, moved, went, played, talked, did, worked, watched, had, rested

**P. 11:** 1. went  
2. watched  
3. saw  
4. talked  
5. did, do  
6. did, have

**P. 13:** 1. came  
2. met  
3. took  
4. began  
5. got  
6. left

**P. 14:** **Left column:** begin, meet  
**Right column:** went, had, came, left, said, did, took



# Answer key

**P. 15:** 1. do, 2. see, 3. meet, 4. leave

**P. 17:** 2. met  
3. told  
4. came  
5. began  
6. won

<b>P. 24:</b>	<b>Regular:</b>	visited, listened, talked
	<b>Irregular:</b>	went, met, began, got, came, took, said

**P. 25:** 1. went  
2. saw  
3. took  
4. came  
5. left





# Summary

## Irregular verbs in the past simple

- *go > went; see > saw; do > did; have > had; begin > began; come > came; get > got; leave > left; meet > met*
- *say > said; take > took; choose > chose; fall > fell; find > found; lose > lost; tell > told; win > won*

## Reviewing questions in the past simple

- Use **did** + subject + **infinitive** of the **main verb** for questions in the past simple.
- *Where **did** you **go**?; When **did** the concert **begin**?*

## Use of the past simple

- For actions, events or states that **finished** in the past.
- *I **went** to the pool on Saturday.*



# Vocabulary

went

saw

did

had

began

came

got

left

met

said

took

chose

fell

found

lost

told

won

