

# The past simple: regular verbs

GRAMMAR

LEVEL  
Beginner

NUMBER  
EN\_BE\_1257G

LANGUAGE  
English



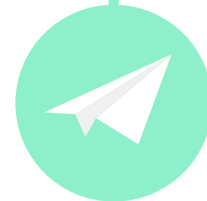


## Goals

- Can understand how to form the past simple of regular verbs by adding -ed
- Can use the past simple to describe a previous holiday to colleagues



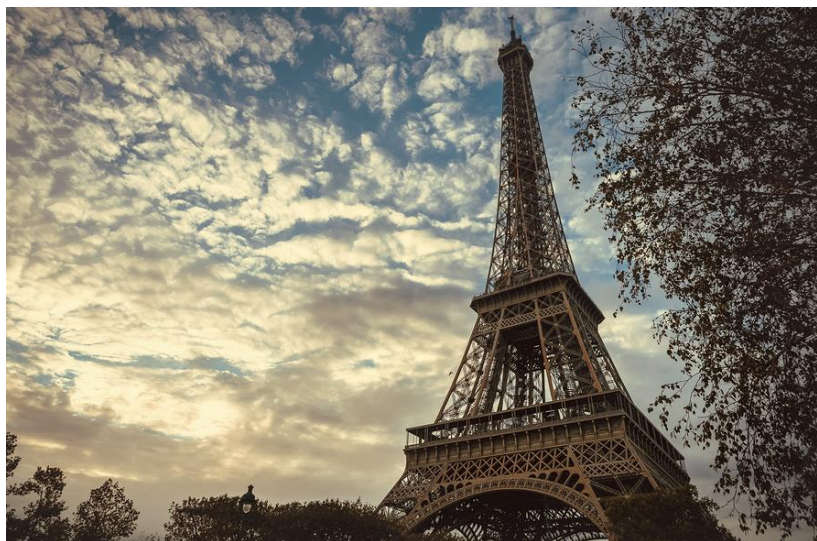
Last summer, for my holidays I **visited**  
Japan and Korea.





## Preview and warm-up

- In this lesson, you will learn how to form the **past tense** of **regular verbs** and practise **talking about past events**.



We **stayed** in a hotel near the Eiffel tower.



## The past simple

- Use **the past simple** to talk about **completed actions** in the **past**.
- Add **-ed** to the **infinitive** of **regular verbs** to form the past simple.

infinitive	past simple
visit	visited
walk	walked
stay	stayed
enjoy	enjoyed
relax	relaxed



## Forming the past simple



Add **-ied** to **some verbs ending in y** to form the past simple.

infinitive		past simple
carry	→	carried
study	→	studied
try	→	tried
cry	→	cried
hurry	→	hurried



## Forming the past simple

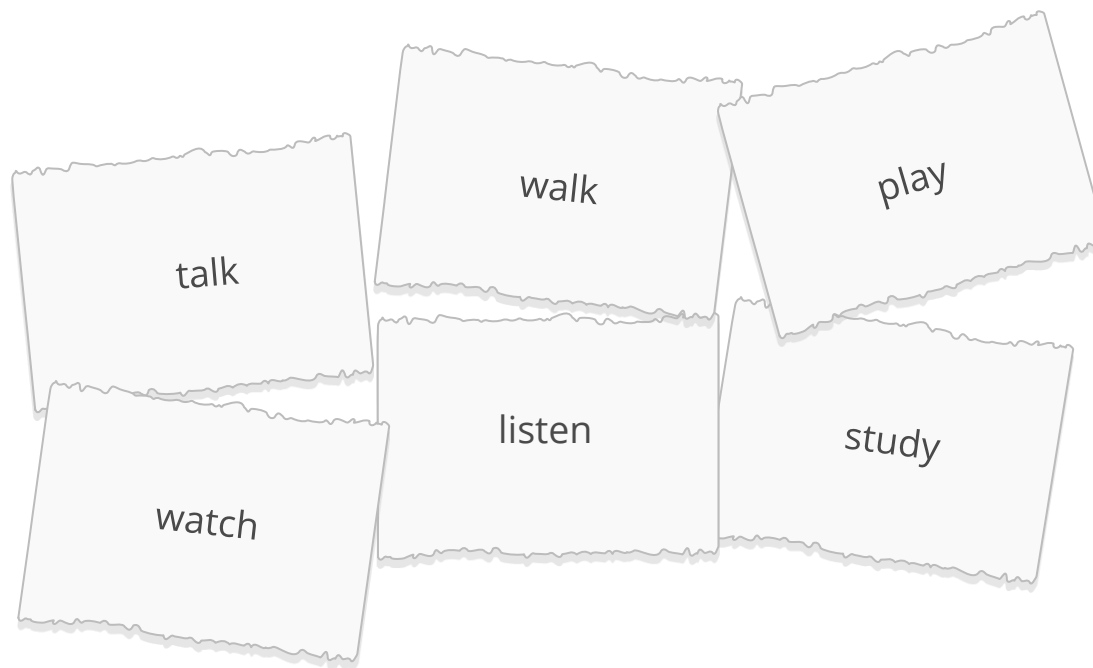


Regular verbs in **the past simple** are the **same** for all subjects.

present simple	past simple
I <b>play</b> basketball after work.	I <b>played</b> basketball after work yesterday.
You <b>watch</b> presentations.	You <b>watched</b> a presentation last week.
He <b>visits</b> the Japan office regularly.	He <b>visited</b> the Japan office last month.
She <b>listens</b> to her boss.	She <b>listened</b> to her boss.
We <b>stay</b> in a hotel when we travel.	We <b>stayed</b> in a hotel last summer.
They <b>carry</b> the food to the meeting room.	They <b>carried</b> the food to the meeting room.



## Practise pronouncing the past simple of these verbs

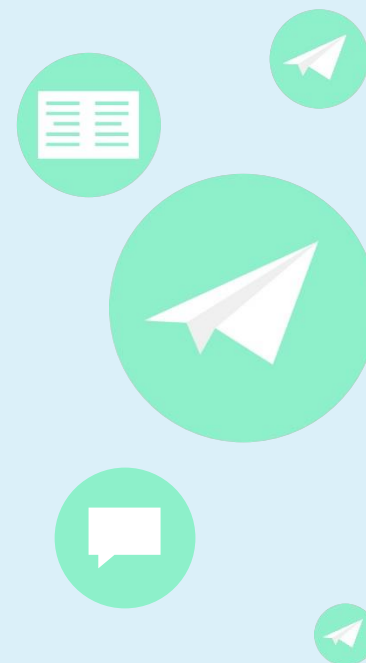






## Complete the sentences with a regular past simple verb

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ to work this morning.
2. We \_\_\_\_\_ to his talk at the conference.
3. He \_\_\_\_\_ South America last summer.
4. We \_\_\_\_\_ engineering at university.
5. They \_\_\_\_\_ about it at the meeting.





ed

ied

wash

try

## study

work

watch

cry

carry

play



## Past time phrases

- We often use certain **time phrases** with the past simple.
- They tell us **when** we did something.
- We usually put them at the **end** of a sentence.

past simple sentence	time phrase
I <b>visited</b> Amsterdam for work	<b>last year.</b>
They <b>talked</b> to their boss	<b>yesterday.</b>
We <b>watched</b> the presentation	<b>a few days ago.</b>



## Time phrases

yesterday  
afternoon

last night

at the moment

a few months ago

today

last week

last year



## Choose the correct option

1. I watched TV \_\_\_\_\_ night.

**a. last**

**b. yesterday**

**c. now**

**d. ago**

2. I \_\_\_\_\_ the Philippines last summer.

**a. vacation**

**b. go**

**c. visited**

**d. visit**

3. My colleague \_\_\_\_\_ dinner for us last night.

**a. cook**

**b. cooks**

**c. cooked**

**d. make**

4. We \_\_\_\_\_ our holiday!

**a. enjoys**

**b. enjoyed**

**c. enjoy**

**d. go**



## Put the sentences in the past simple and add a time phrase

1. I cook dinner.

→ I **cooked** dinner **yesterday**.

2. We play tennis after work.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. She visit the French office.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. They study French during their lunch break.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Talk to a classmate about what you did in the past month

last night

yesterday

tried

watched

visited

stayed

enjoyed

played

studied

ago



## To do in the past simple



- One of the most important **irregular verbs** in the **past simple** is the verb **to do**:

I	did
you	did
he, she, it	did
we	did
they	did





## Negating in the past simple

- To form **negatives** in the past simple, we use the past simple of **to do + not + infinitive** (without to).
- **Did + not** is often shortened to **didn't**.
- Look at the examples below:

- I **watched** a lot of presentations at my last job.
- He **walked** home from work yesterday.
- They **played** football at the weekend.

- I **didn't watch** a lot of presentations at my last job.
- He **didn't walk** home from work yesterday.
- I **didn't play** football at the weekend.



## Read the sentences



I **walked** up the stairs.

I **didn't walk** up the stairs.



She **answered** the phone.

She **didn't answer** the phone.





## Important irregular verbs

- Here is the irregular verb **to go** in the **past simple**:

I	went
you	went
he, she, it	went
we	went
they	went



## Read the sentences



I **went** on holiday last month.

I **didn't go** on holiday last month.



She **went** to the cinema after work yesterday evening.

She **didn't go** to the cinema after work yesterday evening.





## The past simple negative forms

- Here are some more examples of the **past simple** in positive and negative sentences:

positive	negative
I <b>went</b> to Italy last year.	I <b>didn't go</b> to Italy last year.
You <b>stayed</b> in a hotel.	You <b>didn't stay</b> in a hotel.
He <b>needed</b> a break.	He <b>didn't need</b> a break.
We <b>sailed</b> at the local sailing club.	We <b>didn't sail</b> at the local sailing club.
They <b>loved</b> the beach.	They <b>didn't love</b> the beach.



## Negate these sentences

1. I went on holiday last summer.



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2. You walked to the office today.



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3. He listened to music at his desk.



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4. We visited our colleagues in Los Angeles.



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5. They relaxed in the chill out room at the office.



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Describe what happened (or didn't happen)...



He had...

He didn't know...



Describe what happened (or didn't happen)...



He looked at..

They didn't  
remember...





Describe what happened (or didn't happen)...



She didn't...

He wanted...



Imagine you are...

... back at the office after your holiday and are discussing what you did with a colleague! Act out the situation.

- Where did you travel to?
- What did you visit there?
- What didn't you do there?



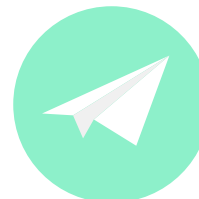


## Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no





## Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.  
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over  
the most difficult slides again



## Answer key

### Exercise 1, p.8

1. talked, walked, played, watched, listened, studied

### Exercise 2, p.9

1. walked
2. watched
3. visited
4. studied
5. talked

### Exercise 3, p.10

1. -ed: washed, worked, watched, played
2. -ied: tried, studied, cried, carried

### Exercise 4, p.12

**Present:** now, at the moment, today  
**Past:** yesterday afternoon, last night, a few months ago, last week, last year

### Exercise 5, p.13

1. a
2. c
3. c
4. b



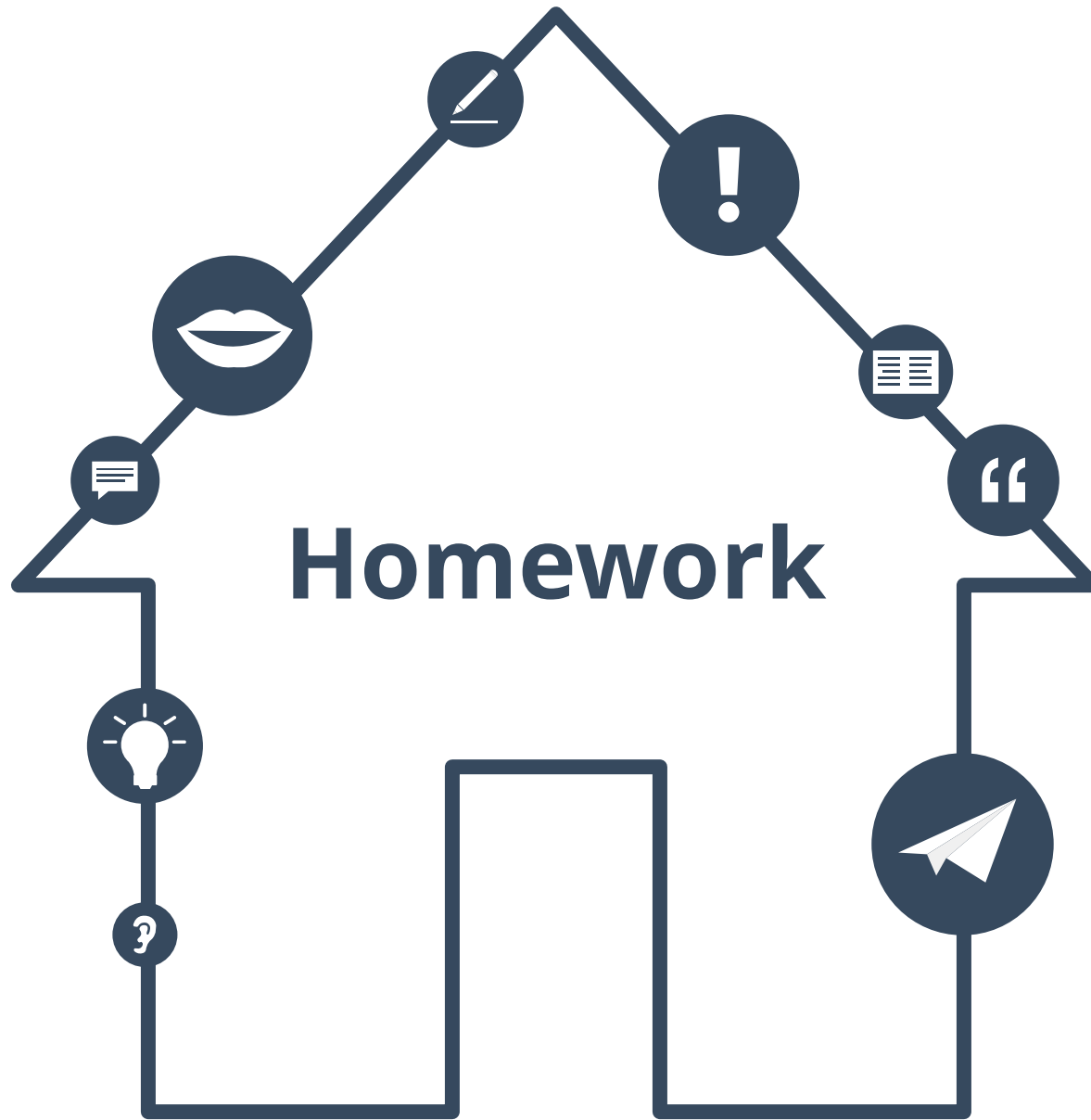
## Answer key

### Exercise 7, p.22

1. I didn't go...
2. You didn't walk...
3. He didn't listen
4. We didn't visit
5. They didn't relax

### Exercise 6, p.14

2. We played tennis...
3. She visited the French office...
4. They studied French...





## Complete the table

walk	_____
_____	watched
play	_____
_____	listened
visit	_____
cook	_____
study	_____
stay	_____
enjoy	_____

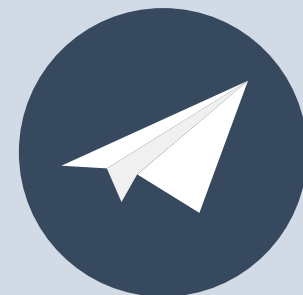






## Write the verb in the past simple

to stay	_____
to visit	_____
to watch	_____
to do	_____
to walk	_____
to carry	_____
to go	_____
to answer	_____
to look	_____





## Transform the sentences to the past simple

1. I go to the cinema (negative)

→ I **didn't go** to the cinema.

2. She likes chocolate. (positive)

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. They go to Greece. (negative)

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. He visits his girlfriend. (positive)

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. We do our homework. (positive)

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. We do our homework. (negative)

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. I call my friend. (positive)

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. You walk to work. (negative)

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Homework answer key

### **Exercise 1, p.31**

walked, watch, played, listen, visited, cooked, studied, stayed, enjoyed

### **Exercise 2, p.32**

stayed, visited, watched, did, walked, carried, went, answered, looked

### **Exercise 3, p.33**

2. liked, 3. didn't go, 4. visited, 5. did, 6. didn't do, 7. called, 8. didn't walk



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