

2º ENGLISH

## Past activities

---

06

# INDEX

/ 1. Introduction and practical context	3
/ 2. Past simple	4
/ 3. Past simple. regular and irregular verbs	5
/ 4. Expressions related to time	8
/ 5. Case study 1: “Tell me a story!”	9
/ 6. Giving directions	9
/ 7. Case study 2: “Good old times”	10
/ 8. Summary and unit’s case study resolution	10
/ 9. Bibliography	11

# OBJECTIVES

*Learn the structures for the Past Simple tense.*

*Know the uses of Past Simple and Regular/Irregular verbs.*

*Learn expressions related to time.*

*Know expressions used to ask and give directions.*

*Express yourself in Past Simple and use time expressions properly.*

## / 1. Introduction and practical context

In this sixth unit, we will learn how to express situations in the past using the Past Simple tense, by using regular and irregular verbs and time expressions. We will also learn different ways of asking and giving directions, which is quite useful in everyday situations and business context.

Listen to the following audio, which includes a case study that will be solved along this lesson.



Fig.1. Clock



Audio Intro. Pauline, the au pair.

<https://bit.ly/30BuAUE>





## / 2. Past simple

In English, the Past Simple tense has several forms, according to the type of sentence in which it is used, that is, affirmative, negative and interrogative forms.

### Past Simple Affirmative

Subject	Verb	Objects
I You We They	Played <b>bought</b>	Football some apples
He She It	Played <b>bought</b>	Football some apples

It's important to pay attention to the type of verb (regular or irregular). Regular verbs add –ed or –d to form the affirmative, irregular verbs have their own special form (we will study them later in this unit).

### Past Simple Negative

Subject	Verb	Objects
I You We They	<b>did not/ didn't</b> play <b>did not/ didn't</b> buy	football some apples
He She It	<b>did not/ didn't</b> play <b>did not/ didn't</b> buy	football some apples

In this case, it's not necessary to change the order of the elements in the sentence; we just add the auxiliary verb did not (didn't) between the subject and the main verb.

### Past Simple Interrogative

Auxiliary verb	Subject	Main verb	Objects
<b>Did</b>	I You We They	play buy	football? some apples?
<b>Did</b>	He She It	play buy	football? some apples?



Fig. 2. Old car radio



## / 3. Past simple. regular and irregular verbs

In general terms, the Past Simple tense is used in the following situations:

- For finished (completed) actions, events and situations in the past: Peter visited his aunt yesterday.
- For describing the events in a story: Alison pushed the door open and looked inside the room.
- For describing habits and routines in the past (repeated actions): She went to the cinema five times last month.
- For general truths about the past: Twenty years ago, people didn't use mobile phones as much as they do today.

We must also take into account some important **spelling rules** when adding *-ed* to the main verb in the Past Simple Affirmative (regular verbs):

- Most verbs just add *-ed*: *start-started*
- Verbs ending in *-e* add *-d*: *live-lived* // *decide-decided*
- Verbs ending in vowel+consonant+-y, change *-y* to *-i* and add *-ed*: *study-studied*
- Verbs ending in vowel+-y, add *-ed*: *play-played*
- One syllable verbs ending one vowel+one consonant, double the consonant and add *-ed*: *stop-stopped*
- Two syllable verbs ending one vowel+one consonant, double the consonant if the stress is on the last syllable and add *-ed*: *prefer-preferred*

For the Past Simple Affirmative, we have another group of verbs called Irregular Verbs. These verbs have their own special forms to use in affirmative sentences in the Past Simple. We should know the most important ones, here you have some examples:



Fig. 3. Keep dreaming

INFINITIVE	PAST SIMPLE	PAST PARTICIPLE
Be	was/were	been
Beat	beat	beaten
Become	became	become
Begin	began	begun
Bite	bit	bitten
Blow	blew	blown
break	broke	broken
Bring	brought	brought
Build	built	built
Burn	burnt/burned	burnt/burned
Buy	<b>bought</b>	bought



INFINITIVE	PAST SIMPLE	PAST PARTICIPLE
Catch	Caught	Caught
Choose	Chose	Chosen
Come	Came	Come
Cost	Cost	Cost
Cut	Cut	Cut
Do	Did	Done
Draw	Drew	Drawn
Drink	Drank	Drunk
Drive	Drove	Driven
Dream	Dreamed/dreamt	Dreamed/dreamt
Eat	Ate	Eaten
Fall	Fell	Fallen
Feel	Felt	Felt
Fight	Fought	Fought
Find	Found	Found
Fly	Flew	Flown
Forget	Forgot	Forgotten
Get	Got	Got
Give	Gave	Given
Go	Went	Gone
Grow	Grew	Grown
Hang	Hung	Hung
Have	Had	Had
Hear	Heard	Heard
Hide	Hid	Hidden
Hit	Hit	Hit
Hold	Held	Held
Hurt	Hurt	Hurt
Keep	Kept	Kept
Know	Knew	Known
Leave	Left	Left
Lend	Lent	Lent
Let	Let	Let
Lie	Lay	Lain
Lose	Lost	Lost
Learn	Learnt/learned	Learnt/learned
Make	Made	Made
Mean	Meant	Meant
Meet	Met	Met
Pay	Paid	Paid



INFINITIVE	PAST SIMPLE	PAST PARTICIPLE
Put	Put	Put
Read	Read	Read
Ride	Rode	Ridden
Ring	Rang	Rung
Rise	Rose	Risen
Run	Ran	Run
Say	Said	Said
See	Saw	Seen
Sell	Sold	Sold
Send	Sent	Sent
Shine	Shone	Shone
Shoot	Shot	Shot
Show	Showed	Shown
Shut	Shut	Shut
Sing	Sang	Sung
Sit	Sat	Sat
Sleep	Slept	Slept
Speak	Spoke	Spoken
Spend	Spent	Spent
Stand	Stood	Stood
Steal	Stole	Stolen
Smell	Smelled/smelt	Smelled/smelt
Swim	Swam	Swum
Take	Took	Taken
Teach	Taught	Taught
Tell	Told	Told
Think	Thought	Thought
Throw	Threw	Thrown
Understand	Understood	Understood
Wake	Woke	Woken
Wear	Wore	Worn
Win	Won	Won
Write	Wrote	Written



## / 4. Expressions related to time

The Past Simple is often used with the following words and phrases, they are known as **time words**:

- Yesterday
- *I went to the beach yesterday.*
- Last night
- *We did a special dinner for our wedding anniversary last night.*
- Last week/[season]/year
- *Peter and Sarah went to Mexico on holidays last summer.*
- On [day of the week, date]
- *We learnt the grammar last Tuesday in the class / Philip was in New York on 12th May.*
- In [month]
- *They sent us a present in May.*
- In [year]
- *Columbus discovered America in 1492.*
- An hour/week/year ago
- *Your brother left an hour ago, he went to the pub.*
- At [hour]
- *Simon left his house at 9.00am.*
- After that
- *She visited us last week, and we didn't know anything about her after that.*



Fig. 4. Romantic past



Audio 1. Definition of the most common past time expressions.

<https://bit.ly/2YI4JwQ>







## / 5. Case study 1: “Tell me a story!”

**Situation:** A father is telling a story to his child before going to sleep.

**Question:** He is telling the story of the cat and the dog. The child is very interested and he makes a question in the Past Simple with the question word “what” and the verb “happen” to try to guess the rest of the story. Make that question (interrogative sentence) in the Past Simple.

**Solution:** The question would be What happened?



Fig. 5. What's your story



Video 1. A tale: the cat and the dog.  
<https://bit.ly/2YSQTnc>



## / 6. Giving directions

When asking for and giving directions, we can use expressions like these:

### Asking for directions

- Can you tell me the way to the nearest [post office/bus station...]?
- Do you know how to get to [Wulfruna Street/Gran Vía...]?
- Excuse me, how can I go to...?
- Where is the nearest [taxi stop], please?
- Where can I find [the toilet], please?
- Can you show me on the map, please? I'm looking for this address...
- Which is the best way to...?
- Excuse me, how do I find...?
- May I ask for some help? I need to get to...

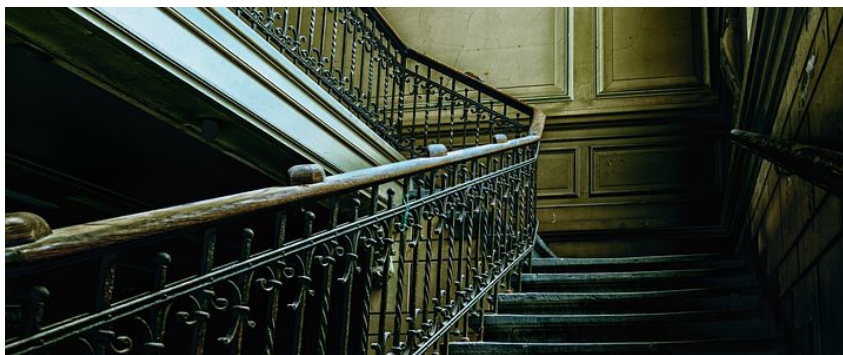


Fig. 6. What's your story



### Giving directions

- Left

*Go left/turn left/it's on the left/take a left/take the second on the left*

- Right

*Go right/turn right/it's on the right/take a right/take the second on the right*

- Ahead

*Go ahead/go straight ahead/go straight on/go along/go down*

- To describe the process

*First/the first step/next/before/after/after that/then/as soon as/when/during/the third step/meanwhile/whenever/as soon as/every time/the last step/finally*



Audio 2. Directions to toilet.  
<https://bit.ly/2yBwvMR>



## / 7. Case study 2: “Good old times”

**Situation:** Two friends are remembering good times they lived together.

**Question:** They mention several places they visited time ago. One of those places is Greece. They say that they went there the previous year. What other expression can you use to say previous year?

**Solution:** You can also say last year.



Fig. 7. Beautiful holidays.



Video 2. Do you remember the time?  
<https://bit.ly/2M4kGYg>



## / 8. Summary and unit's case study resolution

Throughout this unit, we have learnt, remembered and reinforced the following concepts:

- Learning the structures for the Past Simple tense: we have studied the structures for affirmative, negative and interrogative sentences in Past Simple tense.
- Knowing the uses of Past Simple and Regular/Irregular verbs: we have learnt the uses of the Past Simple and the important difference between regular and irregular verbs for this tense (in affirmative sentences).
- Learning expressions related to time: for expressing situations in the past, it is also necessary to use time expressions, we have learnt the most important ones.



- Knowing expressions used to ask and give directions: sometimes it is necessary to ask or give directions in everyday life. We have learnt some expressions about it.

In the practical cases of this unit, we have learnt to express in Past Simple and use time expressions properly.

### Case study resolution

At the beginning of this unit, we had proposed the case study of Pauline, the French au pair, who arrives in London for working with a very wealthy family at Notting Hill. She has just arrived to the neighbourhood, but she cannot find the way to the house, so she decides to ask an old woman passing by. The answer to this question can be the following expressions: Excuse me, how can I go to...? / Excuse me, how do I find...? / May I ask for some help? I need to get to...

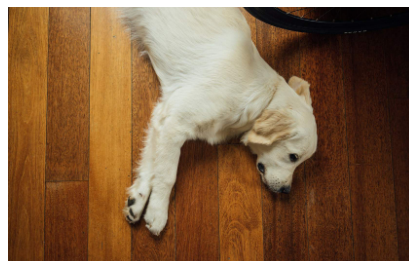


Fig. 8. Take a break

## / 9. Bibliography

Clarke, S. (2008). *MacMillan English Grammar in Context Intermediate*. Oxford, United Kingdom. McMillan Heinemann.

Hashemi, L. & Thomas, B. (2006). *Grammar for PET*. Cambridge, United Kingdom. Cambridge University Press.

McCarthy, M. & O'Dell, F. (1999). *English Vocabulary in Use Elementary*. Cambridge, United Kingdom. Cambridge University Press.

Murphy, R. (2009). *Essential Grammar in Use*. Cambridge, United Kingdom. Cambridge University Press.

Vince, M. (2007). *MacMillan English Grammar in Context Essential*. Oxford, United Kingdom. McMillan Heinemann.

MEDAC