



Simple Past Forms

The simple past is formed using the **verb + ed**. In addition, there are many **verbs with irregular past forms**. Questions are made with **did** and negative forms are made with **did not**.

Statement: You *called* Debbie.

Question: *Did* you call Debbie?

Negative: You *did not call* Debbie.

1. Use the simple past to express the idea that an action started and finished at a specific time in the past.

I **saw** a movie yesterday.

°I **didn't see** a play yesterday.

°Last year, I **traveled** to Japan.

°Last year, I **didn't travel** to Korea.

°**Did** you **have** dinner last night?

2. We use the simple past to list a series of completed actions in the past. These actions happen 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and so on.

Examples:

°I **finished** work, **walked** to the beach, and **found** a nice place to swim.

°He **arrived** from the airport at 8:00, **checked** into the hotel at 9:00, and **met** the others at 10:00.

°**Did** you **add** flour, **pour** in the milk, and then **add** the eggs?

3. The simple past can be used with a duration which starts and stops in the past. A duration is a longer action often indicated by expressions such as: for two years, for five minutes, all day, all year, etc.

Examples:

°I **lived** in Brazil for two years.

°Shauna **studied** Japanese for five years.

°They **sat** at the beach all day.

