

7 LANGUAGE FOCUS • Past simple: questions

I can ask questions about events in the past.

- 1 Look at the questions about Robert Wadlow in the text on page 90 again and complete the table. Which word is in all of the questions?

Question word	Auxiliary verb	Subject	Main verb	Other words
—	1	he	2	any brothers and sisters?
—	Did	3	go to	university?
4	did	he	become	famous?
What	did	5	call	him?
When	6	he	7	?



- 2 Order the words to make past simple questions. There is one extra word in each sentence.

- here / you / did / do / grow up / ?
- where / what / live / did / he / ?
- does / he / get a job / did / ?
- how / travel / did / they / travels / ?
- did / finished / when / he / finish / ?

- 3 Read the information about the Vietnamese scholar Lê Quý Đôn. Write questions using the words in blue.

LÊ QUÝ ĐÔN: A Vietnamese Scholar



- He lived in the 18th century. (When ... ?)
- He was a poet, a scholar, and a government official. (Who ... ?)
- In 1760, Lê Quý Đôn went to China as an ambassador. (Where ... ?)
- Yes, he was the principal of the National University situated in the Văn Miếu in Hà Nội. (Was ... ?)
- No. He had many works of the old Vietnamese literature. (Did ... ?)
- He passed away in 1784 when he was 58 years old. (How ... ?)
- In many places in Việt Nam, they name major schools after him. (What ... ?)

- 4 Look at the paragraph. Complete the parts in blue with your ideas. Then work in pairs. Ask questions (a maximum of twenty) to find the information in your partner's paragraph. You can only answer 'Yes, I did' or 'No, I didn't'.

Last weekend I went to (a famous city) and went to the cinema with (a famous actor / actress). Then we had dinner with (a famous sports star) and we talked and danced for (two / three / four) hours.

Did you go to London?

No, I didn't.

- 5 USE IT! Complete the questions with the past simple form of the verbs. Then ask and answer the questions with a partner.

- (you / live) here when you were younger?
- What (you / do) last weekend?
- When (you / last / go) to the cinema?
- What film (you / see)?
- Who (you / go) with?
- (you / do) any sports last weekend?
- (you / play) any video games yesterday?
- (you / have fun) on your last holiday?

Finished?

What is the longest question that you can make using the past simple?

