**SIMPLE PAST**

A form of a verb that shows that something happened or existed before the present time, typically a form such as ‘walked’, as in ‘I walked away’.

**Example:**

1) He watched TV yesterday.
2) They were students two years ago.
3) I went to the hospital last month.

**How to formulate the simple past.**

For regular verbs, add **-ed** to the root form of the verb (or just **-d** if the root form already ends in an **e**).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Watch</th>
<th>Watched</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visit</td>
<td>Visited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talk</td>
<td>Talked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use</td>
<td>Used</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For irregular verbs, things get more complicated. The simple past tense of some irregular verbs looks exactly like the root form:

- Slit
- Read
- Quit
- Spread

For other irregular verbs, including the verb to be, the simple past forms are more erratic:

- Teach
- Taught
- Make
- Made
- lose
- lost
- Break
- Broke
How to make the simple past negative.

It is the same for both regular and irregular verbs (except for the verb to be). The formula is did not + [root form of verb]. You can also use the contraction didn’t instead of did not.

Example:

1) She did not eat her lunch yet.
2) I didn’t have breakfast yesterday.

For the verb to be, you don’t need the auxiliary did. When the subject of the sentence is singular, use was not or wasn’t. When the subject is plural, use were not or weren’t.

Example:

1) Smoking was not permitted at this mall.
2) Ahmed was in Florida while his family members were in New York.
3) The students were qualified to pass the proficiency.
4) Nada and Sara weren’t as optimistic as the other kids.
How to ask a question.

The formula for asking a question in the simple past tense is \textit{did + [subject] + [root form of verb]}.

**Example:**

1) Did you visit the museum while you were in Brazil?
2) Did the bus arrive late?

When asking a question with the verb to be, you don’t need the auxiliary did. The formula is \textit{was/were + [subject]}.

**Example:**

1) Was your first teacher American.
2) Were your parents both in Canada.
Common Regular Verbs in the Past Tense

- Studied
- Played
- Cleaned

didn’t study  didn’t play  didn’t clean

Common Irregular Verbs in the Past Tense

- Went
- Drove
- Ate

didn’t go  didn’t drive  didn’t eat
Choose the correct answers:

1) I ____ to the mall after school.
   a- goed
   b- gone
   c- went

2) My brother ____ a bear an hour ago.
   a. seen
   b. saw
   c. sees

3) ____ Mike visit his grandmother last night?
   a- Did
   b- Are
   c- Does

4) Alex did not ____ last weekend.
   a- working
   b- worked
   c- work

5) ____ Judy and Liz at last month’s meeting?
   a- Was
   b- Were
   c- Are

6) We ____ not happy after the sad ending.
   a- were
   b- was
   c- did

7) ____ you see Jody’s new dog yesterday?
   a- Are
   b- Did
   c- Do

8) Sorry, I _______ hear you at the door.
   a- wasn’t
   b- didn’t
   c- am not

9) I ____ English for two years.
   a- studying
   b- study
   c- studied

10) What ____ you eat for lunch yesterday?
    a- do
    b- did
    c- were