

UNIT 2

Past Simple - Used to

Past Simple (Regular Verbs)



Last summer, Julie and Brian **visited** Australia. They **stayed** at a lovely hotel in Sydney. They **visited** the Sydney Opera House and they **walked** across the Sydney Harbour Bridge. **Did they enjoy themselves?** Yes, they **did**.

We form the past simple of **regular verbs** by adding **-ed** to the main verb.
e.g. She **watched** TV last night.

We form questions and negations with the auxiliary verb **did/did not (didn't)**, the subject and the main verb without **-ed**.
e.g. **Did she watch** TV last night?
She **did not/didn't watch** TV last night.

Affirmative			
I	}	finished.	
He/She/It			
You/We/They			
Interrogative			
Did	}	finish?	
Negative			
		Long form	Short form
I	}	did not	didn't
He/She/It			
You/We/They			

Spelling Rules

- ◆ Verbs ending in **-e** take only **-d**. *dance - danced*
- ◆ Verbs ending in a **consonant + y**, drop the y and take **-ied**. *try - tried*
- ◆ Verbs ending in a **vowel + y**, take **-ed**.
play - played, stay - stayed
- ◆ Verbs ending in one **stressed vowel** between two consonants, double the last consonant and take **-ed**.
plan - planned but open - opened
- ◆ Verbs ending in **-l**, double the l and take **-ed**.
travel - travelled, quarrel - quarrelled

1 Write the past simple of the verbs in the list in the correct box.

laugh, study, travel, pray, stop, close, cry, rob, call, love, tidy, dance, miss, drop, phone, enjoy, try, live, refer, look, carry

+ ed	+ d
<i>laughed</i>	
-y → ied	double consonant + ed

2 Make sentences using the prompts below as in the example.

- Olivia's room is clean now. (clean it/an hour ago)
She cleaned it an hour ago.
- Helen isn't watching TV. (turn it off/half an hour ago)
- Steve doesn't go to the gym any more. (stop/six months ago)
- Mary is eating the cake. (bake it/half an hour ago)
- Kim is having a party today. (arrange it/two weeks ago)
- Rob doesn't live here any more. (move/three days ago)
- Peter's house is tidy. (tidy it/two hours ago)

Pronunciation

The suffix **-ed** is pronounced:

- ◆ / **id** / when the verb ends in a / t / or / d / sound.
posted, succeeded
- ◆ / **t** / when the verb ends in a / k /, / s /, / tʃ /, / ʃ /, / f / or / p / sound.
cooked, kissed, touched, wished, laughed, stepped
- ◆ / **d** / when the verb ends in any other sound.
arrived, prepared, showed, robbed

3 Write the past simple of the verbs in the correct box, then read them aloud.

want, open, wash, work, arrest, help, carry, visit, cook, clean, need, finish, load, live, watch, accept, laugh, stay, pass, type, persuade, arrange, rub

/ id /	wanted
/ t /	
/ d /	

4 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form of the past simple.

- 1 A: Sorry Mum, but I ...*dropped*... (drop) the glass on the floor.
B: Never mind. Just be careful next time.
- 2 A: (you/watch) the horror film last night?
B: Yes, but I (not/enjoy) it.
- 3 A: (your neighbours/move) house yesterday?
B: Yes, we (help) them move their boxes.
- 4 A: A train (crash) last night.
B: I know. Luckily, all the passengers (survive).
- 5 A: Susan (not/play) tennis yesterday.
B: I know. She's playing today instead.
- 6 A: (you/see) Kate yesterday?
B: Yes. We (have) lunch together.

Past Simple (Irregular Verbs)



Julie and Brian **went** swimming every day. They **saw** some kangaroos, but they **didn't see** any crocodiles. They **had** a lot of fun.

Irregular verbs do not form the past simple by adding **-ed**.

e.g. leave-left, cut-cut, swim-swam

(See list of irregular verbs on page 152.)

They form questions and negations with **did/did not (didn't)** and the root form (infinitive) of the verb.

e.g. They **left** - **Did** they **leave**? - They **didn't leave**.

Affirmative			
I	}	left.	
He/She/It			
You/We/They			
Interrogative			
Did	}	leave?	
		I	
		he/she/it	
		you/we/they	
Negative			
		Long form	Short form
I	}	did not	didn't
He/She/It		leave.	
You/We/They			

Use

We use the past simple:

- ◆ for actions which happened at a definite or stated time in the past; that is, we know **when** they happened.

They **graduated** four years ago. (When did they graduate? Four years ago. We know the time.)



- ◆ for actions which happened repeatedly in the past but don't happen any more. In this case we can use adverbs of frequency (*always, often, usually, etc.*).

He **often played** football with his dad when he was five. (But he doesn't play football with his dad any more.)



- ◆ for actions which happened immediately one after the other in the past.



They **cooked** the meal **first**.



Then they **ate** with their friends.

- ◆ to talk about people who are no longer alive.

Princess Diana **visited** a lot of schools.



Time Expressions

Time expressions used with the past simple include: *yesterday, last night/week/month/year/Monday, etc., two days/weeks/months/years ago, then, when, in 1992, etc.*

5 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form of the past simple. What use of the past simple does each sentence show?

- 1 Mother ...*cleaned*... (clean) the windows twice last week. (*definite/stated time*)
- 2 They (not/go) on holiday to Spain last year.
- 3 Tina (not/sing) in the school concert yesterday.
- 4 Paul often (fight) with his brother when they were young.
- 5 Mother Teresa (help) the poor people of India.
- 6 Her sister (bake) this beautiful cake on Monday.
- 7 (Sam/enjoy) his trip to Wales last weekend?
- 8 John (fall) and (hurt) his knee.

6 Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple.

- A Lesley 1) ...*bought*... (buy) her house two months ago. It is a beautiful cottage in the countryside. However, when Lesley 2) (decide) to buy it, it 3) (need) a lot of work. First, she 4) (decorate) all the rooms. Then, she 5) (plant) lots of flowers in the garden. After that, she 6) (make) new curtains for all the windows. When it was ready, she 7) (move) in. That was last week. Now, Lesley is very happy.
- B Claude Monet 1) ...*was*... (be) a famous artist. He 2) (paint) lots of beautiful pictures in his lifetime. He often 3) (take) his paints and a canvas into the countryside. He 4) (love) to paint trees and rivers during the different seasons of the year. Monet 5) (create) a new kind of art called Impressionism. He 6) (die) in 1926, but many people still visit museums and galleries to look at his pictures.

Short Answers

e.g. Did you buy a gift for your mother? Yes, I did.

Did you ...?	Yes, I/we did.	No, I/we didn't.
Did he/she/it ...?	Yes, he/she/it did.	No, he/she/it didn't.
Did they ...?	Yes, they did.	No, they didn't.

7 Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple.

Ferdinand Magellan 1) ...*was*... (be) a Portuguese sailor who 2) (want) to sail around the world. Emperor Charles V of Spain 3) (give) him five ships and two hundred and sixty-five Spanish sailors. They 4) (leave) Spain on 20th September, 1519 and 5) (begin) their long and dangerous journey.

On the journey, Magellan 6) (discover) the Pacific Ocean. Unfortunately, he and many of the sailors 7) (die) in a battle on 27th April, 1521. After that, a Spanish sailor 8) (take) control of the ships and 9) (set off) to complete the voyage. Only one ship and sixteen men 10) (survive) the journey. They 11) (arrive) back in Spain on 6th September, 1522. They 12) (be) the first men to sail around the world.

8 Read the text in ex. 7 again and, in pairs, ask and answer questions as in the examples.

- Ferdinand Magellan / be / a Portuguese sailor?
SA: *Was Ferdinand Magellan a Portuguese sailor?*
SB: *Yes, he was.*
- the Emperor of Spain / give him / fifteen ships?
SA: *Did the Emperor of Spain give him fifteen ships?*
SB: *No, he didn't. He gave him five ships.*
- they / leave / Spain / 1619?
- the journey / be / long and dangerous?
- Magellan / discover / the Pacific Ocean?
- Magellan / die / with soldiers / in battle?
- a Spanish sailor / complete / voyage?
- the remaining ship / reach / Spain / 1523

9 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form of the past simple.



- A: What 1)*did you do*..... (you/do) last summer?
B: I 2) (work) in a fast food restaurant.
A: What kind of work 3) (you/do)?
B: I 4) (take) orders from customers.
A: 5) (you/earn) much money?
B: Yes, but I 6) (spend) most of it.
A: What 7) (you/spend) it on?
B: I 8) (go) on holiday to the Greek islands.
A: 9) (you/have) a good time?
B: Yes, it 10) (be) wonderful!

10 You have just come back from a holiday. Your friend is asking you some questions. Look at the prompts and, in pairs, ask and answer questions giving your own answers.

- where / go?
SA: *Where did you go?*
SB: *I went to Spain.*
- who / go with?
.....
- have / a good time?
.....
- stay / at a camp-site?
.....
- the weather / good?
.....
- what / do every day?
.....
- eat / at restaurants?
.....
- go / the beach?
.....

Used to



People **used to dress** differently in the past. Women **used to wear** long dresses. **Did they use to carry** parasols with them? Yes, they **did**. They **didn't use to go** out alone at night.

◆ **Used to** is used to talk about past habits or things that do not happen any more. It has the same form in all persons, singular and plural. It is followed by infinitive.

e.g. Peter **used to eat** a lot of sweets. (=Peter doesn't eat many sweets any more.)

We form questions and negations with the auxiliary verb **did/did not (didn't)**, the subject and the verb "use" without -d.

e.g. **Did Peter use to eat** many sweets?
Mary **didn't use to stay** out late.

◆ We can use the **past simple** instead of "used to" with no difference in meaning.

e.g. She **used to live** in the countryside.
= She **lived** in the countryside.

Affirmative

I
He/She/It
You/We/They } **used to** travel.

Interrogative

Did I
he/she/it
you/we/they } **use to** travel?

Negative

	Long form	Short form	
I He/She/It You/We/They	did not	didn't	} use to travel.

11 Peter Gordon won a lot of money on the lottery last year. **Look at the pictures and say what Peter used to do and what he does now.**

e.g. Peter **used to live** in a small house, but now he **lives** in a big house.

	LAST YEAR	NOW
1	live/small house	live/big house
2	go to work/by bus	go to work/by car
3	eat/at home	eat out
4	watch/TV	go/the theatre
5	spend/his holidays/at a camp-site	spend/his holidays/travelling

12 Complete the sentences with the correct form of used to and the verb in brackets.

- I ...*didn't use to watch*... (not/watch) the news, but now I watch it every day.
- My aunt (drink) a lot of coffee, but now she prefers to drink tea.
- We (live) in a flat, but we live in a big house now.
- (you/go) to school on foot?
- We (not/like) each other, but now we're good friends.
- I (not/eat) vegetables. Now I eat them every day.
- My sister (play) the piano, but now she doesn't.
- They..... (spend) their weekends in the countryside. They don't any more.

Short Answers

e.g. Did you use to go out often? Yes, I did./No, I didn't.

Did you ...?	Yes, I/we did.	No, I/we didn't.
Did he/she/it ...?	Yes, he/she/it did.	No, he/she/it didn't.
Did they ...?	Yes, they did.	No, they didn't.

13 In pairs, ask and answer questions using the prompts as in the example.

SA: Did you use to play with your friends when you were five?

SB: Yes, I did. / No, I didn't.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 play with your friends? | 6 listen to fairy tales? |
| 2 watch many cartoons? | 7 have a bath every day? |
| 3 go to bed late? | 8 drink milk? |
| 4 cry a lot? | 9 dress yourself? |
| 5 make your bed? | 10 get pocket money? |

Revision Box

14 Choose the correct answer.

- Jacques Cousteau*B*..... the oceans.
A explores B explored C is exploring
- Toby a bicycle, but now he drives a car.
A is riding B used to ride C rides
- I an interesting book at the moment.
A don't read B read C am reading
- He home early yesterday because he felt ill.
A went B is going C used to go
- Mr Jones, but he does now.
A used to travel B didn't use to travel C travelled
- I a noise, so I went to see what it was.
A heard B hear C am hearing
- Bobby how to use a computer at present.
A learnt B is learning C learns
- My parents to a party tonight.
A used to go B goes C are going
- The ferry boat every day at quarter past two.
A leaves B leave C is leaving
- I getting up early in the morning.
A likes B don't like C doesn't like

ORAL Activity

Look at the pictures below. Picture A shows what people used to do in their free time sixty years ago and Picture B what they do nowadays. In pairs, ask and answer questions using the prompts below as in the example.

e.g. SA: Did people use to watch TV sixty years ago?
SB: No, they didn't.

watch TV - dress differently - spend more time together - talk to each other a lot - go out at night much - read more



WRITING Activity

Now, using the pictures and the notes from the Oral Activity, complete the text below.

Life was different sixty years ago. People 1) (not/have) the things we have nowadays. First of all, they 2) (not/watch) TV and they 3) (talk) to each other a lot. Nowadays, people 4) (not/talk) to each other much because they 5) (spend) a lot of time watching TV. Sixty years ago, people 6) (dress) differently. For example, women 7) (wear) longer dresses and men usually 8) (wear) a suit and a tie on Sundays.