

## 7A past simple of be: was / were

Vincent van Gogh **was** an artist.



**Was** he Dutch or French?

She **wasn't** in class yesterday.

The Beatles **were** famous in the 1960s.

Where **were** you last night? You **weren't** at home.

- We use *was / were* to talk about the past.
- We often use *was / were* with past time expressions, e.g. *yesterday, last night, in 2014*, etc.
- We use *was / were* with *born*.  
*I **was born** in Scotland.*

+		-	
I / He / She / It	<b>was</b> there.	I / He / She / It	<b>wasn't</b> there.
You / We / They	<b>were</b> there.	You / We / They	<b>weren't</b> there.

?			✓	✗
<b>Was</b>	I / he / she / it	famous?	Yes, I <b>was</b> .	No, I <b>wasn't</b> .
<b>Were</b>	you / we / they		Yes, you <b>were</b> .	No, you <b>weren't</b> .

## 7B past simple: regular verbs

1 I **booked** the flights yesterday.

We **arrived** at the airport at 10.00 this morning.

2 When I was young I **watched** TV every night.

I **worked** as a waiter every weekend when I was at university.



- We use the past simple for:
  - 1 finished actions that happened once in the past.
  - 2 finished actions that happened more than once in the past.

+		-	
I / You / He / She / It / We / They	<b>worked</b> yesterday.	I / You / He / She / It / We / They	<b>didn't work</b> yesterday.

?			✓	✗		
Did	I / you / he / she / it / we / they	<b>work</b> yesterday?	Yes,	I / you / he / she / it / we / they	<b>did</b> .	No, I / you / he / she / it / we / they <b>didn't</b> .

- **Contraction:** *didn't* = *did not*.
- Regular verbs in the past  $\pm$  end in *-ed*, e.g. *worked, lived, played*.
- The past simple is the same for all persons (*I, you, she*, etc.).
- We use *did / didn't* + infinitive for past simple  $\pm$  and  $\pm$ . *Did* is the past of *do*.

infinitive	past	spelling
watch	<b>watched</b>	add <i>-ed</i>
play	<b>played</b>	
arrive	<b>arrived</b>	add <i>-d</i>
study	<b>studied</b>	consonant + y: <del>y</del> <i>-ied</i>
stop	<b>stopped</b>	one vowel + one consonant: double consonant + <i>-ed</i>

## 7C past simple: irregular verbs

I **went** to Iceland in December. I **didn't go** to New York.



**Did** you **go** to a party? Who **did** you **go** with?

infinitive	past $\pm$	past $\pm$
buy	<b>bought</b>	<b>didn't buy</b>
come	<b>came</b>	<b>didn't come</b>
feel	<b>felt</b>	<b>didn't feel</b>
find	<b>found</b>	<b>didn't find</b>
get	<b>got</b>	<b>didn't get</b>
go	<b>went</b>	<b>didn't go</b>
have	<b>had</b>	<b>didn't have</b>
know	<b>knew</b>	<b>didn't know</b>
put on	<b>put on</b>	<b>didn't put on</b>
say	<b>said</b>	<b>didn't say</b>
take	<b>took</b>	<b>didn't take</b>
think	<b>thought</b>	<b>didn't think</b>
wear	<b>wore</b>	<b>didn't wear</b>

- Some verbs are irregular in the past  $\pm$  and change their form, e.g. *go*  $\rightarrow$  *went*, *have*  $\rightarrow$  *had*.
- We only use the irregular past form in  $\pm$  sentences.  
*I **bought** a bag last night.*
- We use the infinitive after *did / didn't*.  
***Did** you **go** out last night? **NOT** ~~Did you went...~~*
- Remember word order in questions: **ASI** (Auxiliary, Subject, Infinitive), e.g. *Did you go shopping yesterday?*  
**QuASI** (Question word, Auxiliary, Subject, Infinitive), e.g. *Where did you go?*  
**Look at the list of irregular verbs on p.165.**

### can / could

The past simple of *can* is *could*. We add *not* to make negatives and reverse the subject and verb to make questions.

$\pm$  We **could** see the whole city from the plane.

$\pm$  I **couldn't** see him. **NOT** ~~I didn't can see him.~~

$\pm$  **Could** you wear jeans when you were at school?



## 7A

a Rewrite the sentences in the past simple.

**present simple**

**Yesterday**

My father's at work.

My father was at work.

- 1 She's at home today. \_\_\_\_\_ at home.
- 2 Where are you now? Where \_\_\_\_\_?
- 3 I'm in Edinburgh. \_\_\_\_\_ in Edinburgh.
- 4 Is it hot today? \_\_\_\_\_ hot?
- 5 It isn't open now. \_\_\_\_\_ open.
- 6 They aren't in the office. \_\_\_\_\_ in the office.
- 7 We're in Rome now. \_\_\_\_\_ in Rome.
- 8 They're tired. \_\_\_\_\_ tired.
- 9 We aren't late. \_\_\_\_\_ late.
- 10 I'm not at school. \_\_\_\_\_ at school.

b Complete the conversation with *was*, *wasn't*, *were*, or *weren't*.

A Were you and Charlie at the concert last night?

B Yes, we <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

A <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ it good?

B No, it <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. The singer <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ terrible.

A <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ the tickets expensive?

B Yes, they <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

C Where <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ your mother born?

D She <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ born in Argentina in 1955.

C <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ her parents Argentinian?

D No, they <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. Her father <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ German and her mother <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ from Italy.

← p.54

## 7B

a Rewrite the sentences in the past simple.

**present simple**

**past simple**

We watch TV.

We watched TV yesterday evening.

- 1 I study English. \_\_\_\_\_ at school.
- 2 Do you listen to the news? \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday?
- 3 He doesn't cook. \_\_\_\_\_ last night.
- 4 Does she play sport? \_\_\_\_\_ at university?
- 5 They work late. \_\_\_\_\_ last week.
- 6 She travels a lot. \_\_\_\_\_ in 2018.
- 7 Jack works in New York. \_\_\_\_\_ five years ago.
- 8 I call my parents every day. \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday.
- 9 We don't live in France. \_\_\_\_\_ ten years ago.
- 10 Anna asks a lot of questions. \_\_\_\_\_ at the meeting.

b Complete the sentences with a verb in the past simple.

book not call cry dance finish  
not listen play

We finished work late yesterday.

1 I \_\_\_\_\_ my mother on her birthday.

2 The film was very sad. \_\_\_\_\_  
you \_\_\_\_\_?

3 My brother \_\_\_\_\_ video games all day yesterday.

4 I \_\_\_\_\_ to the news this morning.

5 \_\_\_\_\_ Sarah \_\_\_\_\_ with Martin at the party?

6 We \_\_\_\_\_ our hotel rooms online.

← p.57

## 7C

a Correct the information using the word in brackets.

She put on a coat. (jacket)

She didn't put on a coat. She put on a jacket.

- 1 She wore a red dress. (blue)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 I came home early. (late)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 We went by train. (bus)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 He said hello. (goodbye)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 You had a sandwich. (salad)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6 He knew her surname. (first name)  
\_\_\_\_\_

b Complete the text with the verbs in brackets in the past simple. All the verbs are irregular.

Last New Year's Eve I went (go) to London with some friends.

We <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (have) dinner at a Chinese restaurant, and at 10.00 p.m. we <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (take) a taxi to Trafalgar Square. We <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (be) there for an hour, and then we <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the river. We <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (can) see the fireworks very well, and we <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a great time. We <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (get) home at 4.00 a.m. We <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (feel) tired, but we <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (be) very happy!

c Complete the questions in the past simple.

A Did you go out last night?

B No, I stayed at home.

1 A What \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday?

B I wore jeans.

2 A Where \_\_\_\_\_ her shoes?

B She bought them in Paris.

3 A What time \_\_\_\_\_?

B We got home late.

← p.58