

PAST SIMPLE

A2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Practice | 35-45 minutes

Learn and practise | Describe completed events and tell a short story.

1. READ: An unexpected afternoon

Read the conversation. Notice the bold past simple verbs.

Tom: How was your afternoon, Sara?

Sara: Good! I **went** into town and **met** an old friend.

Tom: Who was it?

Sara: Leah. We **studied** together at school.

Tom: Nice. What did you do?

Sara: We **had** lunch, then **walked** around the park. I **got** home at five.

2. GRAMMAR: Completed past events

Use the past simple for completed events in the past. The verb form is usually the same for all subjects.

Verb type	Pattern	Example
Regular	Usually add -ed	walk - walked
Spelling changes	-d / -ied / double + -ed	live - lived; study - studied
Irregular	Learn the past form	go - went; have - had

More spelling: **stop - stopped; play - played.**

Useful irregulars: **buy - bought; see - saw; make - made; get - got.**

Past be is different: **I / he / she was; you / we / they were.**

A. CHOOSE

Circle the correct past form. The example answer is bold: walk - **walked** / walk.

1. go - goed / went

2. study - studied / studied

3. have - had / haved

4. stop - stoped / stopped

5. buy - bought / buyed

6. make - maked / made

7. play - played / plaied

8. see - saw / seed

Read each answer aloud. Check the subject, the noun or the clue.

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Use it | Complete a context, write sentences and speak with a partner.

B. COMPLETE: A day at the beach

Write the past simple form of each verb in brackets.

Last Saturday, we (1) _____ (take) the train to the beach.

We (2) _____ (arrive) at ten and (3) _____ (walk) to the sea.

The water (4) _____ (be) cold, so we stayed on the sand.

At lunchtime, I (5) _____ (buy) sandwiches for everyone.

After lunch, we (6) _____ (play) a game, then went home.

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1-2: Rewrite for yesterday.

Example: I walk home. **I walked home yesterday.**

1. She visits her aunt.

2. We go to the park.

3-4: Put the words in order. Example: lunch / we / had **We had lunch.**

3. a cake / made / Ben

4. at six / home / got / I

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU

Write three sentences about a recent day. Use at least one regular and one irregular past verb.

Example: **I went to town. I bought a book. I walked home.**

E. SPEAK WITH A PARTNER

1. Tell your partner about a recent day. Say where you went and what you did.

2. Ask two follow-up questions: **Who did you go with?**

What did you do next? What time did you get home?

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Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

1. READ: An unexpected afternoon

Sample target language from the conversation:

Sara: Good! I **went** into town and **met** an old friend.

Sara: Leah. We **studied** together at school.

Sara: We **had** lunch, then **walked** around the park. I **got** home at five.

A. CHOOSE

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| 1. went | 2. studied |
| 3. had | 4. stopped |
| 5. bought | 6. made |
| 7. played | 8. saw |

B. COMPLETE: A day at the beach

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| 1. took | 2. arrived |
| 3. walked | 4. was |
| 5. bought | 6. played |

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1. She visited her aunt yesterday.
2. We went to the park yesterday.
3. Ben made a cake.
4. I got home at six.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU / E. SPEAK

Personal answers will vary. Check the target grammar.

Sample: I went to town. I bought a book. I walked home.

Teacher note: Accept travelled and traveled. This lesson focuses on positive past forms; the speaking questions are supplied. Check was / were separately.