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## Past Simple

### Use of the Past Simple

The Past Simple is used to write and talk about completed actions that happened in a time before the present. It is the basic form of the past tense in English. Study the following information how to form the simple past and how to form the negation and questions.

**Regular Verbs** How to form: **Infinitive + ed = 2<sup>nd</sup> form**

Examples: walk +**ed** > walked  
 laugh +**ed** > laughed  
 want +**ed** > wanted

Note: cry - cried y » i

carry -carried

love - loved no e

hope - hoped

stop - stopped if you speak a short vowel » **doubling**

drop -dropped

Key words: **yesterday, last week (month, Monday, October,...), in 1984,ago**

### Irregular Verbs

1 <sup>st</sup> form	2 <sup>nd</sup> form	1 <sup>st</sup> form	2 <sup>nd</sup> form
am, is	<b>was</b>	see	<b>saw</b>
are	<b>were</b>	do	<b>did</b>
get	<b>got</b>	take	<b>took</b>

go          went          have          had

### Negation of the Past Simple

→ How to form: Subject + **didn't** (= did not) + **V.1<sup>st</sup> form**

He **didn't** go to her last party. They **didn't** like his story.

BUT: **was not** (wasn't), **were not** (weren't), **could not** (couldn't)

### Questions in the Past Simple

→ How to form: **Did** + **Subject** + **V.1<sup>st</sup> form**?

**Did** he go to her last party? **Did** they like his story?

### Question word - did - person - verb?

Where did they live? How did she feel?

BUT: **Was** he angry? **Were** they late? **Could** they swim?

### Fill in the past form.

1. Mammoths \_\_\_\_\_ big animals, bigger than elephants. (be)
2. Mammoths \_\_\_\_\_ 100 years ago. (not live)
3. Mammoths \_\_\_\_\_ a long time ago. (live)
4. Mammoths \_\_\_\_\_ meat. They \_\_\_\_\_ grass. (not eat / eat)
5. They \_\_\_\_\_ two large tusks about three metres long. (have)
6. I \_\_\_\_\_ by credit card. I \_\_\_\_\_ cash. (pay / not pay)
7. He \_\_\_\_\_ some milk. He \_\_\_\_\_ any water. (drink / not drink)
8. She only \_\_\_\_\_ a pound. She \_\_\_\_\_ 3 pounds. (spend / not spend)
9. I \_\_\_\_\_ some elephants. I \_\_\_\_\_ any lions. (see / not see)
10. They \_\_\_\_\_ in the sea, but \_\_\_\_\_ in the lake. (swim / not swim)

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Put the following sentences into the negation. Fill in the negative form of the verb.

Example: She wrote an email to Tom. She didn't write an email to Tom.

1. My dad \_\_\_\_\_ ( meet ) her in Paris three days ago.
2. Sam \_\_\_\_\_ ( buy ) a new camera.
3. They \_\_\_\_\_ ( come ) home late from work last Monday.
4. We \_\_\_\_\_ ( play ) tennis yesterday afternoon.
5. I \_\_\_\_\_ ( catch ) a cold last winter.
6. The girls \_\_\_\_\_ ( watch ) TV yesterday evening.
7. The student \_\_\_\_\_ ( copy ) the text from the board.
8. The children \_\_\_\_\_ ( swim ) in the sea.
9. We \_\_\_\_\_ ( stay ) at the same hotel in Paris.
10. Linda \_\_\_\_\_ ( fly ) to Las Vegas last Wednesday.
11. I \_\_\_\_\_ ( be ) really tired yesterday evening.
12. They \_\_\_\_\_ ( go ) to bed early last Friday.
13. We \_\_\_\_\_ ( find ) what they did yesterday night.
14. She \_\_\_\_\_ ( cook ) pasta for dinner last Thursday.
15. They \_\_\_\_\_ ( be ) late for school again two days ago.

## Past continuous

The past continuous is formed using **was/were + V.ing**.

Statement: You **were studying** when she called.

Negatives are : **Subject + wasn't , weren't + V.ing**.

Negative: You **were not studying** when she called.

Questions are : **Was/Were + Subject + V.ing ?**

Question: **Were you studying** when she called?

### Past Continuous specific time

Examples:

**Last night at 6 PM**, I was eating dinner.

**At midnight**, we were still driving through the desert.

**Yesterday at this time**, I was sitting at my desk at work.

Examples:

Last night at 6 PM, I was eating dinner.

I started earlier; and at 6 PM, I was in the process of eating dinner.

Examples:

I was studying **while** he was making dinner.

**While** Ellen was reading, Tim was watching television.

I was watching TV **when** she called.

**When** the phone rang, she was writing a letter.

**While** we were having the picnic, it started to rain.

## Past Continuous - Positive and Negative

### Make the positive or negative past continuous

- 1) Julie \_\_\_\_\_ (sleep) at three o'clock.
- 2) You \_\_\_\_\_ (study) at three o'clock.
- 3) Luke \_\_\_\_\_ (read) at three o'clock.
- 4) I \_\_\_\_\_ (work) at three o'clock.
- 5) They \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) chocolate at three o'clock.
- 6) John \_\_\_\_\_ (play) tennis at three o'clock.
- 7) We \_\_\_\_\_ (watch) TV at three o'clock.
- 8) He \_\_\_\_\_ (use) the internet at three o'clock.
- 9) You \_\_\_\_\_ (cook) lunch at three o'clock.
- 10) We \_\_\_\_\_ (travel) to London at three o'clock.
- 11) Mrs Brown \_\_\_\_\_ (not/walk) in the garden when the murder happened.
- 12) Mr Black \_\_\_\_\_ (not/work) in his study when the murder happened.
- 13) Miss Jones \_\_\_\_\_ (not/talk) to Mr. White when the murder happened.
- 14) You \_\_\_\_\_ (not/play) cards when the murder happened.
- 15) Dr Ford \_\_\_\_\_ (not/read) in his room when the murder happened.
- 16) Mr. and Mrs. Green \_\_\_\_\_ (not/eat) in the dining room when the murder happened.
- 17) Mr Blue \_\_\_\_\_ (not/drink) coffee in the library when the murder happened.

18) The maid \_\_\_\_\_ (not/clean) the bedrooms when the murder happened.

19) I \_\_\_\_\_ (not/listen) to music when the murder happened.

20) The dogs \_\_\_\_\_ (not/play) outside when the murder happened.

Make the correct form of the past continuous

1) \_\_\_\_\_ (he / cook)

2) \_\_\_\_\_ (she / play cards)?

3) \_\_\_\_\_ (I / not / cry)

4) \_\_\_\_\_ (you / not / feel well)

5) \_\_\_\_\_ (where / I / go when I met you)?

6) \_\_\_\_\_ (she / not / sleeping at midnight)

7) \_\_\_\_\_ (I / work)?

8) \_\_\_\_\_ (you / sleep when I got home)?

9) \_\_\_\_\_ (it / rain at lunchtime)

10) \_\_\_\_\_ (what / you / do)?

When + subject + V.2 , subject + was /were + V.ing .

While + subject + was / were + V.ing , subject + V.2

Make the past simple or past continuous

1) I \_\_\_\_\_ (sit) in a cafe when you \_\_\_\_\_ (call) .

2) While Susie \_\_\_\_\_ (watch) a film ,she \_\_\_\_\_ (hear) the noise.

3) We \_\_\_\_\_ (play) tennis when John \_\_\_\_\_ (hurt) his ankle.

4) What \_\_\_\_\_ (they/do) at 10pm last night - it was really noisy?

5) He \_\_\_\_\_ (take) a shower when the telephone \_\_\_\_\_ (ring).

- 6) He \_\_\_\_\_ (be) in the shower when the telephone \_\_\_\_\_ (ring).
- 7) I \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) into the room while everyone \_\_\_\_\_ (work).
- 8) I \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) along the street while I \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) an old friend.
- 9) He \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in Russia when the Revolution \_\_\_\_\_ (start).
- 10) When her train \_\_\_\_\_ (get) to the station, we \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) on the platform.
- 11) While they \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in Germany , they \_\_\_\_\_ (be) young.
- 12) At 7pm yesterday, we \_\_\_\_\_ (listen) to music.
- 13) When I \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) the house, it \_\_\_\_\_ (snow).
- 14). While he \_\_\_\_\_ (work) in a bank , he \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) his wife.
- 15) What \_\_\_\_\_ (you/do) when I \_\_\_\_\_ (call) you last night?

Write "When" or "While"!

1. I was reading a book ..... suddenly I heard a noise.
2. .... Rose was cooking dinner, her husband went to work.
3. .... Sandra and Kathy was talking in the living-room, the doorbell rang.
4. Ben was playing in a basketball team ..... he was a kid.
5. Sharon came home ..... her brother was playing video games.
6. .... Angela got home, she was making some coffee.
7. They were sleeping ..... the burglars broke in.
8. We were having a lesson ..... we heard a terrible noise.
9. .... I was cycling, the rain started.

10. He broke his arm ..... he was playing basketball.