

PAST SIMPLE

FORM

The form of the past simple is the same for all persons (I, you, he, she, it, we, you, they).

AFFIRMATIVE	
I	worked drank
You	
He	
She	
It	
We	
You	
They	

NEGATIVE		
I	did not	work drink
You		
He		
She		
It		
We		
You		
They		

INTERROGATIVE		
Did	I	work? drink?
	you	
	he	
	she	
	it	
	we	
	you	
	they	

Contraction: **did not = didn't**

Some verbs are "**regular**", other are "**irregular**".

The affirmative past simple of regular verbs ends in **-ed**:

work > worked
play > played
live > lived

When we add -ed to verbs, there are sometimes changes in spelling:

stop > stopped
travel > travelled
try > tried
live > lived

Irregular verbs have different affirmative past simple forms:

see > saw
come > came
drink > drank

USE

We use the past simple to talk about actions and situations that happened in the past, often with expressions like **ago, yesterday, last night, in 2005**, etc...

I played football yesterday
He lived in London from 1997 to 2005.
Did you see Sarah yesterday?. No, I didn't
We didn't go out last night. We stayed at home.
They went to Spain on holiday last summer.
Cristopher Columbus discovered America.

SPELLING RULES

Past simple affirmative

□ V+ **-ed**

With most verbs we add **-ed**: *walk > walked, finish > finished*

□ + **-d**

With verbs ending with **-e**, we add **-d**: *live > lived, phone > phoned*

□ **y > -ied**

With verbs that end with a **consonant + -y**, we change the **-y** to **-ied**:
try > tried, apply > applied

□ **Double consonant**

With verbs that end with a vowel + one consonant, we double the consonant:
stop > stopped, plan > planned, travel > travelled

Exceptions: We do not double the final consonant:

1.- When it is a **-y** or **-w** : *stay > stayed*

2.- When the last syllable is not stressed: *listen > listened, open > opened*

PRONUNCIATION OF THE -ED

The **-ed** ending can be pronounced in 3 different ways: **/id/**, **/t/** or **/d/**.

- ⊙ If the verb ends in the sound /t/ or /d/, you pronounce the -ed ending **/id/**.
 invite /in 'vait/
 invited /in 'vait**id**/
- ⊙ If the verb ends in a voiceless consonant sound apart from /t/, you pronounce the -ed ending **/t/**.
 stop /stop/
 stop**ped** /stopt/
- ⊙ If the verb ends in a voiced consonant sound apart from /d/, or a vowel, you pronounce the -ed ending **/d/**.
 call /ko:l/
 call**ed** /ko:ld/

NOTE:

- ⊙ Voiceless consonant sounds:

/t/, /p/, /k/, /f/, /s/, /θ /, /ʃ / or /tʃ /

- ⊙ Voiced consonant sounds: the rest

/d/, /b/, /g/, /v/, /z/, /ð /, /ʒ /, /dʒ /, /l/, /r/, /m/, /n/, /ŋ /

ACTIVITIES

1.- SPELLING RULES.

Write the past simple of these verbs:

1. LIKE _____

2. PLAY _____

3. LISTEN _____

4. CYCLE _____

5. REVISE _____

6. COPY _____

7. PRACTISE _____

8. START _____

9. WATCH _____

10. LIVE _____

11. COOK _____

12. DANCE _____

13. HATE _____

14. FINISH _____

15. TIDY _____

16. USE _____

17. NEED _____

18. SAIL _____

19. SLIP _____

20. PLAN _____

2.- PRONUNCIATION:

Write the past form of these verbs in the correct column below:

discover crash laugh destroy survive jump
worry need visit change travel introduce

/t/	/d/	/ɪd/

3.- REGULAR VERBS.

Complete the sentences with the past simple of one of these verbs:

clean die enjoy finish happen live open
play rain smoke start stay want watch

1. Yesterday evening I _____ television.
2. I _____ my teeth three times yesterday.
3. Bernard _____ 20 cigarettes yesterday evening.
4. The concert last night _____ at 7.30 and _____ at 10 o'clock.
5. The accident _____ last Sunday afternoon.
6. When I was a child, I _____ to be a doctor.
7. Mozart _____ from 1756 to 1791.
8. We _____ our holiday last year. We _____ at a very good hotel.
9. Today the weather is nice, but yesterday it _____.
10. It was hot in the room, so I _____ the window.
11. The weather was good yesterday, so we _____ tennis.
12. William Shakespeare _____ in 1616.

4.- IRREGULAR VERBS.

What did Mr. Bird do yesterday?. Write the verbs in brackets in the past simple form.

Yesterday Mr. Bird (get up) _____ at 6.45 and (have) _____ a shower. Then he (have) _____ tea and cornflakes for breakfast. He (leave) _____ home at 7.55 and (go) _____ to work by bus. He (take) _____ the 8.05 bus and (get) _____ to work at 8.30. He (have) _____ lunch from 1.00 till 2.00 and (leave) _____ work at 6.00 in the evening. When he (get) _____ home, he (read) _____ the newspaper. Then he (have) _____ dinner at 7.15. After dinner he (take) _____ his dog out for a walk. He (go) _____ to bed at 10.30 exactly!.