

Unit five

Past Simple

to be, can and affirmative of regular and irregular verbs

Past simple : to be			
Affirmative	I / He / She / It	was	at school.
	You / We / They	were	at school.
Negative	I / He / She / It	was not (wasn't)	at school.
	You / We / They	were not (weren't)	at school.
Yes/No Questions	Was	I / he / she / it	at school?
	Were	you / we / they	at school?
Short Answers	Yes, (I / he / she / it) was. No, (I / he / she / it) was not /wasn't.		
	Yes, (you / we / they) were No, (you / we / they) were not weren't		
Wh question	Where	was	I / he / she / it?
		were	you / we / they?

➤ We use the Past Simple to talk about events that started and ended in the past.
نستخدم الزمن الماضي البسيط للحديث عن الأحداث التي بدأت وانتهت في الماضي.

* The Past Simple of *be* is ***was/were***:

They were both amazing artists.

Was she a famous writer?

He wasn't happy about the situation.

Examples

1. I **was** very happy on my birthday.
2. She **wasn't** at school yesterday.
3. **Were** they in the park last night?
4. We **were** tired after the football match.
5. He **wasn't** my teacher last year.
6. **Was** it cold in the morning?
7. You **were** at the library yesterday.
8. Where **was** your brother yesterday?
9. They **weren't** ready for the test.
10. Why **were** you late to class?

Past simple: <i>can</i>				
Affirmative	I / You / He / She / It / We / They	could		Sing.
Negative	I / You / He / She / It / We / They	could not (couldn't)		Sing.
Wh- questions	What	could	I / you / he / she / it / we / they	sing ?

➤ The past form of the verb ***can*** is ***could***.

* We use ***could*** and ***couldn't*** to talk about ability in the past:

نستخدم ***couldn't*** و ***could*** للحديث عن القدرة أو الإمكانيات في الماضي.

I could write well but I couldn't draw when I was a child.

Examples

1. I ***could*** ride a bike when I was six.
2. She ***couldn't*** find her keys yesterday.
3. **Could** you hear the teacher clearly?
4. They ***could*** play football very well.
5. We ***couldn't*** visit the museum because it was closed.
6. **What could** you see from the top of the hill?
7. He ***could*** draw beautiful pictures.
8. She ***couldn't*** come to the party last night.
9. **Could** they understand the story?
10. **Why couldn't** you finish your homework?

Worksheet (7)

Fill in the blanks with the correct word: was, were, could, or couldn't.

1. I _____ very tired after school yesterday.
2. She _____ at the library last night.
3. We _____ play basketball when we were kids.
4. He _____ find his phone this morning.
5. _____ they at the park yesterday?
6. You _____ very happy on your birthday.
7. _____ you hear the music clearly?
8. They _____ ready for the test.
9. Why _____ she late to class?
10. He _____ draw a big cat when he was seven.
11. We _____ at home during the holiday.
12. I _____ remember the answer to the question.
13. _____ it cold yesterday morning?
14. She _____ come to the party last week.
15. Where _____ your friends yesterday?

Past Simple: affirmative

Regular verbs	Irregular verbs	
I / You / He / She / It / We / They	watched TV.	I / You / He / She / It / We / They

► We use the Past Simple to talk about actions and situations that started and finished in the past or happened at a specific time in the past:

نستخدم زمن الماضي البسيط للتحدث عن الأفعال والحالات التي بدأت وانتهت في الماضي أو حدثت في وقت محدد في الماضي.

Omar watched the match yesterday.

Last year we went to Dubai.

► Time expressions we use with the Past Simple:

yesterday, last weekend / year, ten days / a minute ago, in 1969 / the 1980s / July.

Spelling rules

Regular verbs:

- infinitive: + *-ed*, e.g. *start – started, ask – asked*
- verbs ending in *-e*: + *-d*, e.g. *move – moved*
- verbs ending in a consonant + *-y*: *-y + -ied*, e.g. *study – studied*
- verbs ending in one vowel + one consonant:
double the consonant + *-ed*, e.g. *stop – stopped*

Irregular verbs

For a list of irregular verbs, see page 72.

Examples

Regular verbs:

- walk → walked → *I walked to the park yesterday.*
- play → played → *She played tennis last weekend.*
- watch → watched → *They watched a movie last night.*
- clean → cleaned → *He cleaned his room this morning.*
- cook → cooked → *We cooked dinner together.*

Irregular verbs:

- go → went → *I went to the store yesterday.*
- eat → ate → *She ate an apple for breakfast.*
- see → saw → *They saw a beautiful bird.*
- take → took → *He took a photo of the sunset.*
- have → had → *We had a great time at the party.*

Worksheet (8)

Fill in the blanks with the Past Simple form of the verb in brackets.

1. Yesterday, I _____ (clean) my room.
2. She _____ (go) to the market last weekend.
3. They _____ (play) football after school.
4. He _____ (eat) pizza for dinner last night.
5. We _____ (watch) a new movie yesterday.
6. My brother _____ (take) many photos on vacation.
7. I _____ (study) for the test last night.
8. She _____ (have) a big birthday party last month.
9. They _____ (walk) to school yesterday.
10. He _____ (see) a funny video online.
11. We _____ (cook) spaghetti for dinner.
12. I _____ (meet) my friend at the cafe yesterday.

Past simple: negative and question forms			
Affirmative	I / You / He / She / It/ We / They		watched TV and went to the park.
Negative	I / You / He / She / It / We / They	did not (didn't)	Watch TV and go to the park.
Yes/No questions	Did	I / you / he / she / it / we / they	Watch TV and go to the park?
Short answers	Yes, (I/you/he/she/it/ we/they) did. No, (I/you/he/she/it/ we/they) didn't.		
Wh- questions	What did	I / you / he / she / it / we / they	watch?

➤ We use **didn't + infinitive** to make negative sentences in the Past Simple:
نستخدم + **المصدر (infinitive)** لتكوين الجمل المعنفية في زمن الماضي البسيط.
We didn't read this book.

➤ We use **did** to make questions:
نستخدم **did** لتكوين الأسئلة في زمن الماضي البسيط.
Did you work long yesterday?

Examples

1. I **went** to the market yesterday.
2. She **didn't eat** breakfast this morning.
3. **Where did** they **watch** the new movie last night?
4. He **played** football on Sunday.
5. We **didn't take** many photos on vacation.
6. **When did** you **see** the beautiful bird in the garden?
7. They **visited** their grandparents last month.
8. She **didn't have** a birthday party last week.
9. **Did** he **study** for the test yesterday?
10. I **cleaned** my room yesterday.

Worksheet (9)

Fill in the blanks with the Past Simple form of the verb in brackets.

1. I _____ (visit) my friend yesterday.
2. She _____ (not/go) to school last Monday.
3. _____ you _____ (see) the new movie last night?
4. They _____ (play) basketball on Saturday.
5. He _____ (not/eat) lunch at home yesterday.
6. We _____ (watch) a documentary yesterday evening.
7. _____ she _____ (take) photos at the party?
8. I _____ (clean) the kitchen yesterday morning.
9. They _____ (not/have) a meeting yesterday.
10. _____ he _____ (finish) his homework last night?

Answers		1. visited	2. didn't go
3. Did ... see	4. played	5. didn't eat	6. watched
7. Did ... take	8. cleaned	9. didn't have	10. Did ... finish

Worksheets answers

Worksheet (1)

1. eats	2. does not walk	3. Do you brush	4. Does your father work
5. play	6. do not watch	7. Does your sister read	8. Does the bus leave
9. cooks	10. does not sleep	11. Do they go	12. Does your teacher check
13. listens	14. does not drink	15. Does your brother clean	16. Do children like
17. visit	18. do not swim	19. Do you use	20. Does your friend call

Worksheet (2)

Answers	1. There is some	2. There isn't any	3. There are some
4. There aren't any	5. There is some	6. There are some	7. There isn't any
8. Is there any	9. Are there any	10. Is there any	

Worksheet (3)

Answers	1. can	2. can't	3. can
4. can't	5. can	6. Can	7. can
8. can't	9. Can	10. can	

Worksheet (4)

Answers				
1. some	2. some	3. no	4. some	5. any
6. any	7. some	8. no	9. any	10. some

Worksheet (5)

Answers	1. a lot of	2. too much	3. not much
4. a little	5. a few	6. not many	7. too many
8. not many	9. a little	10. a lot of	

Worksheet (6)

Answers

1. am cooking	2. is not watching	3. Are they playing	4. is reading
5. are not listening	6. Are your friends studying	7. is cleaning	8. is not sleeping
9. am writing	10. Is your brother running	11. are helping	12. is not talking

Worksheet (7)

Answers	1. was	2. was	3. could
4. couldn't	5. Were	6. was	7. Could
8. weren't	9. was	10. could	11. were
12. couldn't	13. Was	14. couldn't	15. were

Worksheet (8)

Answers

1. cleaned	2. went	3. played	4. ate
5. watched	6. took	7. studied	8. had
9. walked	10. saw	11. cooked	12. met

Worksheet (9)

Answers

	1. visited	2. didn't go	
3. Did ... see	4. played	5. didn't eat	6. watched
7. Did ... take	8. cleaned	9. didn't have	10. Did ... finish