Past Simple

The **Past Simple** tense is used to describe completed actions that happened at a specific time in the past.

1. Structure

Affirmative: Subject + Verb (past form) + Object

- I **visited** my grandmother yesterday.
- She **studied** English last year.

Negative: Subject + did not (didn't) + Base verb + Object

- I did not visit my grandmother yesterday.
- She didn't study English last year.
- ➤ We use **didn't** (**did not**) to make **negatives** with the past simple:
- They **didn't go** to Spain this year.
- We didn't get home until very late last night.
- I didn't see you yesterday.

Questions: Did + Subject + Base verb + Object?

- **Did** you **visit** your grandmother yesterday?
- **Did** she **study** English last night?
- **Did** she **play** tennis when she was younger?
- **Did** you **live** abroad? When **did** you **meet** your wife?
- Where **did** you **go** for your holidays?
- ➤ But questions with who often don't use did:
- Who discovered penicillin?
- Who wrote Don Quixote?

2. Usage: We use the past tense to talk about:

- Completed actions in the past: He traveled to Paris last summer.
- Past habits or repeated actions: When I was a child, I played football every weekend.
- A series of actions in the past: She woke up, brushed her teeth, and went to work
- Past facts or general truths (no longer true): People believed the Earth was flat.

3. Time Expressions Used with Past Simple

- Yesterday
- Last (week, month, year, night, summer, etc.)
- Ago (two days ago, five years ago)
- In (a specific year: in 2010)
- When I was a child

4. Regular and Irregular Verbs

Regular Verbs: Add -ed to the base verb.

- Walk \rightarrow Walked
- Play → Played
- Want \rightarrow Wanted

Irregular Verbs: Change completely or stay the same.

Base form	Past tense
be	was/were
begin	began
break	broke
bring	brought
buy	bought
build	built
choose	chose
come	came
cost	cost
cut	cut
do	did
draw	drew
drive	drove
eat	ate
feel	felt
find	found
get	got
give	gave
go	went
have	had
hear	heard
hold	held
keep	kept
know	knew
leave	left
lead	led
let	let
lie	lay
lose	lost
make	made

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mean	meant
meet	met
pay	paid
put	put
run	ran
say	said
sell	sold
send	sent
set	set
sit	sat
speak	spoke
spend	spent
stand	stood
take	took
teach	taught
tell	told
think	thought
understand	understood
wear	wore
win	won
write	wrote