

Simple Past - regular

When do I use the simple past?

- Actions that started and **finished** in the past
- **When** the action happened is clear (yesterday, "x time" ago, last/past time: 2 weeks ago, last month, past summer)
- Old news
- Things cannot change

The majority of verbs, called **Regular verbs**, follow standard patterns in their inflection and create the *past simple* and the *past participle* using the same word ending, -ed.

-ed ending

base form + ed

I worked yesterday.

He played videogame after school.

They traveled to Egypt in their honeymoon.

base form + d (verbs finishing in "e")

She danced ballet last night.

He decided to buy a new computer.

base form -y + ied (verbs ending in consonant + "y", remove "y")

We studied English last week.

She cried so much watching that movie.

base form + last consonant + ed (verbs ending in consonant vowel consonant, where the stress is in the last syllable, we double the last consonant)

After 3 hours, they stopped their car to eat.

John preferred pizza to pasta.

Affirmative

I **played** the guitar for five years.

He **cooked** dinner after work.

subj + verb (*simple past*)

Negative

I **didn't play** the guitar for five years.

He **didn't cook** dinner after work.

subj + didn't / did not + verb (*base form*)

Interrogative

Did you **play** the guitar for five years.

Did he **cook** dinner after work.

What did she **watch** on TV last night?

WH + did + subj + verb (*base form*)?

Summarizing

You will **only** use the verbs in the *simple past* form when the sentences are **affirmative**!