

PAST SIMPLE / SIMPLE PAST

HOW TO MAKE SENTENCES AND QUESTIONS IN THE "PAST SIMPLE"

AFFIRMATIVE SENTENCES:

Subject + verb in the past

- Ex. You went to the dentist yesterday.
- Ex. Sally forgot her homework.
- Ex. We lost our luggage in Mexico.

NEGATIVE SENTENCES:

Subject + did not + verb

- Ex. You didn't go to the dentist yesterday.
- Ex. Sally didn't forget her homework.
- Ex. We didn't lose our luggage in Mexico.

INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES (QUESTIONS):

Did + subject + verb?

- Ex. Did you go to the dentist yesterday?
- Ex. Did Sally forget her homework?
- Ex. Did we lose our luggage in Mexico?

THE VERB BE IN THE PAST SIMPLE

You, They, We	were
I, He, She, It	was

AFFIRMATIVE SENTENCES:

Subject + verb BE in the past

- Ex. I was late.
- Ex. We were tired.
- Ex. He was in a hurry.

NEGATIVE SENTENCES:

Subject + verb BE in the past + NOT

- Ex. I wasn't late.
- Ex. We weren't tired.
- Ex. He wasn't in a hurry.

*were not = weren't

*was not = wasn't

INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES (QUESTIONS):

Be in the past + subject?

- Ex. Was I late?
- Ex. Were we tired?
- Ex. Was he in a hurry?

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A quick story:

Once upon a time, there **was** a beautiful princess. She **wanted** to meet her prince charming, but she **had** a problem. She **couldn't** speak English and her prince charming only **spoke** English!

How sad, right?!

All the verbs are in the past simple: WAS, WANTED, HAD, COULD, SPOKE

■ WHEN DO WE USE THE PAST SIMPLE?

The **past simple** is used to talk about things that happened and were completed in the past.

There are two categories of verbs in the past - **1. Regular Verbs** and **2. Irregular verbs**

1. Regular verbs: add -ed or -d to the end of a verb

Examples: want – wanted, talk – talked / love – loved, hate – hated

*Regular verbs are easy to conjugate but hard to pronounce.

There are 3 categories of regular verbs:

1) Verbs that end with a **T** or **D** sound

The “-ed” is pronounced when the verbs end with a **T** or **D** sound

Ex. Want – Wanted, Hate – Hated, Paint – Painted, End – Ended, Need – Needed

The “-ed” is **NOT** pronounced when the verbs **DON'T** end with a **T** or **D** sound

2) **Voiceless sounds** – sounds that we produce without using our voice /no vibration in the vocal chords.

Verbs that end in: /k/, /p/, /s/, /ch/, /sh/ are pronounced with a /t/ sound

Ex. Wash – Washed /t/, Laugh – Laughed /t/, Kiss – Kissed /t/, Fish – Fished /t/

3) **Voiced sounds** – sounds that we produce by using our voice / the vocal chords vibrate

Verbs that end in: /l/, /n/, /v/, /b/ and all the vowel sounds verbs are pronounced with a /d/ sound

Ex. Travel – Traveled /d/, Listen – Listened /d/, Love – Loved /d/, Live – Lived /d/

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LET'S PRACTICE!

How do you pronounce these verbs?

1. Hate – Hated
2. Laugh – Laughed
3. Love – Loved

Answers:

Hate – Hated (“ed” – category 1)
Laugh – Laughed (“t” – category 2, voiceless)
Love – Loved (“d” – category 3, voiced)

2. Irregular verbs

The second column (past form) is the one you will need to conjugate the verbs in the past simple. You will need to memorize it, but I will also help you! :) There is an IRREGULAR VERB module where you can search for any irregular verb and you will find examples with audios.

Need a tip for memorizing these verbs?

Pick the 10 most common verbs that you use all the time in Portuguese and memorize those first!

Base form	Past form	Past participle	Portuguese translation
arise	arose	arisen	surgir, erguer-se
awake	awoke	awoken	despertar
be	was, were	been	ser, estar
bear	bore	borne	suportar, ser portador de
beat	beat	beaten	bater, vencer (um adversário)
become	became	become	tornar-se
begin	began	begun	começar
bend	bent	bent	curvar
bet	bet	bet	apostar
bid	bid	bid	oferecer, fazer uma oferta
bind	bound	bound	unir, encadernar, prender (a algo)
bite	bit	bitten	morder
bleed	bled	bled	sangrar, ter hemorragia
blow	blew	blown	assoprar, explodir
break	broke	broken	quebrar
breed	bred	bred	procriar, reproduzir

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Base form	Past form	Past participle	Portuguese translation
bring	brought	brought	trazer
broadcast	broadcast	broadcast	irradiar, transmitir (sinal de rádio ou TV)
build	built	built	construir
buy	bought	bought	comprar
cast	cast	cast	lançar, atirar, projetar
catch	caught	caught	pegar, capturar
choose	chose	chosen	escolher
cling	clung	clung	aderir, segurar-se, grudar
come	came	come	vir
cost	cost	cost	custar
creep	crept	crept	rastejar
cut	cut	cut	cortar
deal	dealt	dealt	negociar, tratar
dig	dug	dug	escavar
do	did	done	fazer (de executar)
draw	drew	drawn	traçar, desenhar
drink	drank	drunk	beber
drive	drove	driven	dirigir, ir de carro
eat	ate	eaten	comer
fall	fell	fallen	cair
feed	fed	fed	alimentar
feel	felt	felt	sentir, sentir-se (também de tato)
fight	fought	fought	lutar
find	found	found	achar, encontrar
flee	fled	fled	fugir, escapar
fling	flung	flung	arremessar
fly	flew	flown	voar, pilotar
forbid	forbid; forbade	forbidden	proibir
forget	forgot	forgotten	esquecer
forgive	forgave	forgiven	perdoar
freeze	froze	frozen	congelar, paralisar
get	got	gotten, got	obter
give	gave	given	dar
go	went	gone	ir
grind	ground	ground	moer

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Base form	Past form	Past participle	Portuguese translation
grow	grew	grown	crescer, cultivar
hang	hung	hung	pendurar
have	had	had	ter, beber/comer (informal), possuir
hear	heard	heard	ouvir
hide	hid	hidden, hid	esconder
hit	hit	hit	bater, acertar
hold	held	held	segurar
hurt	hurt	hurt	machucar
keep	kept	kept	guardar, manter
know	knew	known	saber, conhecer
lay	laid	laid	colocar em posição horizontal, assentar
lead	led	led	liderar, levar à algo/algum lugar
leave	left	left	deixar, partir
lend	lent	lent	dar emprestado
let	let	let	deixar (dar permissão), alugar
lie	lay	lain	deitar
lose	lost	lost	perder, extraviar
make	made	made	fazer, fabricar, produzir
mean	meant	meant	significar, querer dizer
meet	met	met	encontrar, conhecer
overcome	overcame	overcome	superar
overtake	overtook	overtaken	alcançar, surpreender
pay	paid	paid	pagar
put	put	put	colocar, pôr
quit	quit	quit	abandonar, desistir
read	read	read	ler
ride	rode	ridden	andar (de bicicleta, moto, a cavalo)
ring	rang	rung	tocar (campainha, etc.)
rise	rose	risen	subir, erguer-se
run	ran	run	correr, concorrer, dirigir
saw	sawed	sawn	serrar
say	said	said	dizer
see	saw	seen	ver
seek	sought	sought	procurar obter, objetivar
sell	sold	sold	vender
send	sent	sent	mandar, enviar

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set	set	set	pôr em determinada condição, marcar, ajustar
shake	shook	shaken	sacudir, tremer
shed	shed	shed	soltar (pêlo, cabelo, pele, lágrimas, etc)
shine	shone	shone	brilhar, reluzir
shoot	shot	shot	atirar, alvejar
show	showed	shown	mostrar, exhibir
shrink	shrank	shrunk	encolher, contrair
shut	shut	shut	fechar, cerrar
sing	sang	sung	cantar
sink	sank	sunk	afundar, submergir
sit	sat	sat	sentar
slay	slew	slain	matar, assassinar
sleep	slept	slept	dormir
slide	slid	slid	deslizar, escorregar
sling	slung	slung	atirar, arremessar
speak	spoke	spoken	falar
spend	spent	spent	gastar (recursos-tempo, dinheiro, etc.)
spin	spun	spun	fiar, rodopiar, girar
spit	spit, spat	spit, spat	cuspir
spread	spread	spread	espalhar
spring	sprang	sprung	fazer saltar
stand	stood	stood	parar de pé, aguentar
steal	stole	stolen	roubar
stick	stuck	stuck	cravar, fincar, enfiar, grudar
sting	stung	stung	picar (inseto), doer como uma picada
stink	stank	stunk	cheirar mal
strike	struck	struck	golpear, desferir, atacar
string	strung	strung	encordoar, amarrar
strive	strove	striven	esforçar-se, lutar (para alcançar algo)
swear	swore	sworn	jurar, prometer, assegurar, falar palavrão
sweep	swept	swept	varrer
swim	swam	swum	nadar
swing	swung	swung	balançar, alternar
take	took	taken	tomar, levar

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Base form	Past form	Past participle	Portuguese translation
teach	taught	taught	ensinar, dar aula
tear	tore	torn	rasgar, despedaçar
tell	told	told	dizer, contar
think	thought	thought	pensar
throw	threw	thrown	atirar, arremessar
tread	trod	trodden	pisar, trilhar
undergo	underwent	undergone	submeter-se a, suportar
understand	understood	understood	entender
uphold	upheld	upheld	sustentar, apoiar, defender
wake	woke	woken	despertar, acordar
wear	wore	worn	vestir, usar, gastar (de uso)
win	won	won	vencer, ganhar
wind	wound	wound	enrolar, rodar, dar corda
write	wrote	written	escrever, redigir

LET'S GO!

Remember! I will help you memorize the irregular verbs list. You have a BONUS module with all the irregular verbs, where you can find the entire list, listen to the pronunciation, listen to sentences and see the translation between English and Portuguese.

You can also search for specific verbs and download the audio so you can listen to them any-time/anywhere you want!

Count on me!

EXERCISE

Fill in the blanks with the past tense form of the verb in parenthesis. Some verbs are regular (end in -ed) and others are irregular (see chart above).

- Katie _____ to school today. Sarah _____ the bus. Maria _____ her bike and Peggy _____ her car. (walk, take, ride, drive)
- Alice _____ her finger while cooking dinner last night. She _____ it with a knife. (hurt, cut)
- My dog _____ a hole in the backyard and _____ his bone. (dig, bury)
- A bird _____ through an open window of our apartment this morning and _____ the water that was in the sink. (fly, drink)

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5. I ____ a lot of housework yesterday. I _____ the clothes, _____ the floor and _____ all the beds. (do, wash, sweep, make)
6. Jack ____ his passport and ____ his flight to Ireland. (lose, miss)
7. Call the police! Someone ____ my car! (steal)
8. My husband _____ me a painting for my birthday. I _____ it on the wall in our living room. (give, hang)
9. It _____ so cold last night that the water in the lake _____. (be, freeze)
10. Last night I _____ for 9 hours straight and I _____ feeling refreshed. (sleep, wake up)

■ RESPOSTAS (ANSWERS):

1. walked, took, rode, drove
2. hurt, cut
3. dug, buried
4. flew, drank
5. did, washed, swept, made
6. lost, missed
7. stole
8. gave, hung
9. was, froze
10. slept, woke up