

Past Simple (Past Indefinite)

Is used to indicate the actions that took place in the past (the period of time that is cut off from the present)

Exercises

- 1 Complete the sentences with the correct form of *was/were*. Use the negative when you see (-) in parentheses.

- 1 Was he a famous actor?
- 2 I was a good student at school.
- 3 A: Was the bus late yesterday?
B: No, it wasn't. (-)
- 4 There weren't many people at the concert. (-)
- 5 Were the tickets expensive?
- 6 Clive and Sarah were born in the sixties.
- 7 We weren't at the gym this morning. (-)
- 8 Were you at home yesterday evening?

- 2 Write the simple past form of the verbs.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 live <u>lived</u> | 6 play <u>played</u> |
| 2 work <u>worked</u> | 7 want <u>wanted</u> |
| 3 travel <u>traveled</u> | 8 like <u>liked</u> |
| 4 finish <u>finished</u> | 9 stop <u>stopped</u> |
| 5 start <u>started</u> | 10 watch <u>watched</u> |

- 3 Complete the text with the simple past form of the verbs in parentheses.

Gabrielle-Emilie Le Tonnelier de Breteuil
¹ was (be) a famous scientist. She
² was (be) born in Paris, France, in 1706.
 She ³ got (get) married when she was 19
 and ⁴ had (have) three children. But at
 the age of 27, she ⁵ started (start) to study
 mathematics and physics. She was famous in the
 world of science and she sometimes
⁶ worked (work) with the famous French
 philosopher Voltaire. She ⁷ wrote (write)
 a translation of a famous book by the British
 scientist Isaac Newton, and people still use it
 today. She ⁸ died (die) at the age of 42.

- 4 Write the simple past form of the verbs. Write R after the verb if it is regular, and I if it is irregular.

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|
| 1 go | <u>went</u> | <u>I</u> |
| 2 grow | <u>grew</u> | <u>I</u> |
| 3 make | <u>made</u> | <u>I</u> |
| 4 do | <u>did</u> | <u>I</u> |
| 5 find | <u>found</u> | <u>I</u> |
| 6 talk | <u>talked</u> | <u>R</u> |
| 7 buy | <u>bought</u> | <u>I</u> |
| 8 see | <u>saw</u> | <u>I</u> |
| 9 paint | <u>painted</u> | <u>R</u> |
| 10 write | <u>wrote</u> | <u>I</u> |
| 11 read | <u>read</u> | <u>I</u> |
| 12 move | <u>moved</u> | <u>R</u> |
| 13 have | <u>had</u> | <u>I</u> |
| 14 meet | <u>met</u> | <u>I</u> |
| 15 listen | <u>listened</u> | <u>R</u> |

- 5 Write simple past sentences using these ideas.

- 1 we / not go / on vacation / last year
We didn't go on vacation last year.
- 2 Magda / not like / the movie
Magda didn't like the movie.
- 3 they / live / in the US / for ten years
They lived in the US for ten years.
- 4 Mike / make / a big mistake
Mike made a big mistake.
- 5 she / not buy / a ticket
She didn't buy a ticket.
- 6 I / speak / to Bogdan / this morning
I spoke to Bogdan this morning.

- 6 Write simple past questions using these ideas.

- 1 you / live / in a house or an apartment?
Did you live in a house or an apartment?
- 2 What / they / do last night?
What did they do last night?
- 3 Where / Anton / study?
Where did Anton study?
- 4 you / watch / the soccer game last night?
Did you watch the soccer game last night?
- 5 the food / taste good?
Did the food taste good?
- 6 How / they / build their houses?
How did they build their houses?

- 7 Complete the conversation with the simple past form of the verbs in parentheses.

- A: What ¹ did you do (you / do) over the weekend?
 B: I ² visited (visit) my parents on their farm.
 A: I ³ didn't know (not know) your parents have a farm!
 B: Really? I ⁴ grew (grow) up on that farm!
 A: Wow! ⁵ Did you like (you / like) living there?
 B: Yes, it ⁶ was (be) great! We
⁷ played (play) outside all day with the animals.
 A: ⁸ Did you have (you / have) many animals?
 B: Yes, we ⁹ did (do). But we
¹⁰ didn't have (not have) many friends
 because our farm ¹¹ wasn't (not be)
 near any other houses.