

# Simple Past

## Table of Contents

### **"TO BE" IN THE PAST TENSE**

- 2** Affirmative and Negative
- 3** Yes/No Questions
- 4** Information Questions

### **REGULAR VERBS**

- 5** Simple Past Tense

### **IRREGULAR VERBS**

- 6** Simple Past Tense
- 7** Bingo
- 9** Affirmative and Negative
- 10** Yes/No Questions
- 11** Information Questions
- 12** Review
- 13** Time Expressions

- 14** **CLASS ACTIVITY**

# Affirmative and Negative

## "TO BE" IN THE PAST TENSE

### A. Was or Were?

Put the correct form of the verb "to be" (*was/were*) in the past tense in the following sentences.

1. Judy \_\_\_\_\_ sick yesterday.
2. We \_\_\_\_\_ in the same class last year.
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ tired after a long day at work.
4. The weather \_\_\_\_\_ beautiful yesterday.
5. Last semester my teachers \_\_\_\_\_ very good.
6. The children \_\_\_\_\_ hungry after so much exercise.
7. The wind \_\_\_\_\_ very strong last night.
8. She \_\_\_\_\_ very happy last week.
9. They \_\_\_\_\_ nervous on the first day of school.
10. Luckily, the windows \_\_\_\_\_ closed during the rainstorm.
11. We \_\_\_\_\_ very happy to get your letter last week.
12. The boys \_\_\_\_\_ tired after the ball game.

### B. Wasn't or Weren't?

Put the correct negative form of the verb "to be" (*wasn't/weren't*) in the following sentences.

1. They \_\_\_\_\_ at school yesterday because it was Saturday.
2. He \_\_\_\_\_ hungry at dinnertime because he ate a big lunch.
3. Carol \_\_\_\_\_ happy to see her boyfriend with another girl.
4. Bonnie \_\_\_\_\_ at home last night when I called her.
5. The teacher \_\_\_\_\_ satisfied with the student's work.

### C. Complete the Sentences

Finish the following sentences using *wasn't* or *weren't*.

1. I am at work today, but  
I wasn't here yesterday.
2. It is cold outside today, but  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. She is sick today, but  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. They are at school today, but  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. The TV show is good today, but  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. The apples are sweet today, but  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. The class is interesting today, but  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. The boss is angry today, but  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. The door is locked today, but  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. The exercises are easy today, but  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Yes/No Questions

### "TO BE" IN THE PAST TENSE

Practice making questions and giving short answers with the verb "to be" in the past tense.

1. I was tired last night.

Were you tired last night?

Yes, I was.

2. It wasn't cold outside yesterday.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. They weren't sick last week.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Don was at the office last Saturday.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. The car was expensive.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. The children weren't excited.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. The store wasn't open.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. The movie was interesting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. The food wasn't good.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Information Questions

### "TO BE" IN THE PAST TENSE

Use the correct question word (*who, what, where, when, why, how many*) and the correct form of the verb "to be" in the past tense to make questions. The **bold** words are the answers to the questions.

1. Why was she absent?  
She was absent **because she was sick.**
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
She was tired **because she worked hard all day.**
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
She was **at the mall** last night.
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
There were **20 people** at the party.
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
**A diamond ring** was in the box.
6. \_\_\_\_\_  
The secretary was **in the office.**
7. \_\_\_\_\_  
The students were absent **last Tuesday.**
8. \_\_\_\_\_  
She was late **because she missed her bus.**
9. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Mrs. Jones** was at the door.

# Simple Past Tense

## REGULAR VERBS

### A. Choose the Correct Word

Choose the correct verb from the list on the right to complete the following sentences. Write the verb in the past tense.

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ my friend in the hospital last night.
2. The boys \_\_\_\_\_ baseball in the field behind the school.
3. Robert \_\_\_\_\_ his wife wash the dishes.
4. We \_\_\_\_\_ our living room a soft blue color.
5. Susan \_\_\_\_\_ TV for two hours last night.
6. We \_\_\_\_\_ planes on the way to New York.
7. I \_\_\_\_\_ the letter on the way to work.
8. She \_\_\_\_\_ for him for 20 minutes at the coffee shop.
9. They \_\_\_\_\_ how to swim many years ago.
10. She \_\_\_\_\_ the flowers in the garden yesterday.
11. The students \_\_\_\_\_ late for class.
12. We \_\_\_\_\_ to the radio until midnight.

**Word List:**

- play
- visit
- paint
- water
- listen
- mail
- help
- arrive
- learn
- watch
- change
- wait

### B. Negative and Affirmative

Make the following sentences negative and then write a follow-up sentence of your own in the affirmative.

1. Mary baked a cake.

Mary didn't bake a cake. She baked cookies.

2. The boys played soccer.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Carol called her mother.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Donald fixed his TV.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Peter danced with Betty.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Ann studied history.

\_\_\_\_\_

## Simple Past Tense

### IRREGULAR VERBS

#### A. Write the Past Tense

Write the correct past tense for each of the following verbs.

- |         |       |          |       |           |       |           |       |
|---------|-------|----------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|
| 1. cut  | _____ | 6. ride  | _____ | 11. shake | _____ | 16. sleep | _____ |
| 2. dig  | _____ | 7. run   | _____ | 12. shoot | _____ | 17. speak | _____ |
| 3. cost | _____ | 8. see   | _____ | 13. shut  | _____ | 18. spend | _____ |
| 4. meet | _____ | 9. sell  | _____ | 14. sit   | _____ | 19. stand | _____ |
| 5. read | _____ | 10. send | _____ | 15. sing  | _____ | 20. swim  | _____ |

#### B. Word Scramble

Unscramble the following words. Then write the present tense of each verb beside the past irregular verb.

#	Scrambled	Unscrambled	Present Tense
1	etnw	went	go
2	meca		
3	ganbe		
4	dema		
5	lbew		
6	okbre		
7	hocse		
8	idd		

#	Scrambled	Unscrambled	Present Tense
9	krdan		
10	tae		
11	voedr		
12	ghtaut		
13	oltd		
14	woret		
15	wkoe		

# Bingo

## IRREGULAR VERBS

### A. Write the Past Tense

Choose 24 words from the list below and write the past tense of each one in any space on your bingo card on the next page. Mix the verbs up. Do not write them in the same order as the list. (This will ensure you all have a different card.)

- |          |          |        |         |         |              |
|----------|----------|--------|---------|---------|--------------|
| • become | • dig    | • get  | • leave | • sell  | • swing      |
| • begin  | • do     | • give | • let   | • send  | • swim       |
| • bet    | • draw   | • go   | • lose  | • shake | • take       |
| • bite   | • drink  | • grow | • make  | • shoot | • teach      |
| • blow   | • drive  | • hang | • mean  | • shut  | • tell       |
| • break  | • eat    | • have | • meet  | • sink  | • think      |
| • bring  | • fall   | • hear | • pay   | • sit   | • throw      |
| • build  | • feel   | • hide | • quit  | • sleep | • understand |
| • catch  | • fight  | • hit  | • ring  | • speak | • wake       |
| • choose | • find   | • hold | • read  | • spend | • wear       |
| • come   | • fly    | • hurt | • ride  | • stand | • win        |
| • cost   | • forget | • keep | • run   | • stick | • write      |
| • cut    | • freeze | • know | • see   | • sweep |              |

### B. Play Bingo!

Your teacher will call out certain past tense verbs. If you have one, cover it with a bean, piece of cardboard, candy, or any other marker your teacher gives you. When you have one line in any direction covered, shout "Bingo!" (You must have the correct past tense under each marker in order to win.)

# Bingo Card

## IRREGULAR VERBS

		<b>Free Space</b>		



# Affirmative and Negative

## IRREGULAR VERBS

Complete the sentences below. The first question is filled in as an example.

1. Ben usually eats cereal for breakfast.  
He didn't eat cereal yesterday.  
He ate toast.
2. Ben usually gets up at 7:00.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ at 7:00 yesterday.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ at 8:00.
3. Ben usually takes a shower.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ a shower yesterday.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ a bath.
4. Ben usually reads the *Times* newspaper.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ the *Times* yesterday.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ the *Post*.
5. Ben usually leaves the house at 8:00.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ the house at 8:00.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ at 9:00.
6. Ben usually takes a bus to work.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ a bus yesterday.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ a taxi.
7. Ben usually meets his boss in the morning.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ his boss in the morning.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ him in the afternoon.
8. Ben usually writes ten emails in the morning.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ ten emails yesterday.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ five letters.
9. Ben usually eats lunch in the office.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ lunch in the office today.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ lunch in a restaurant.
10. Ben usually has a lot of appointments every day.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of appointments yesterday.  
He only \_\_\_\_\_ a few.
11. Ben usually gets home at 6:00.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ home at 6:00 yesterday.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ home at 7:00.

## Yes/No Questions

### IRREGULAR VERBS

Write the questions. The first question has been filled in as an example.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <u>Did you wake up</u> early?<br>No, I didn't. I woke up late. | 10. _____ a big fish?<br>No, he didn't. He caught a small one.                            |
| 2. _____ at 7:00?<br>No, we didn't. We met at 8:00.               | 11. _____ a cake?<br>No, she didn't. She made a pie.                                      |
| 3. _____ in the pool?<br>No, he didn't. He swam in the lake.      | 12. _____ eight hours?<br>No, I didn't. I slept nine hours.                               |
| 4. _____ apples?<br>No, she didn't. She brought oranges.          | 13. _____ their mother?<br>No, they didn't. They told me.                                 |
| 5. _____ French?<br>No, they didn't. They spoke Spanish.          | 14. _____ on the sofa?<br>No, we didn't. We sat on chairs.                                |
| 6. _____ to school?<br>No, I didn't. I drove to the office.       | 15. _____ a skirt?<br>No, she didn't. She wore a dress.                                   |
| 7. _____ on time?<br>No, he didn't. He came late.                 | 16. _____ the windows?<br>No, I didn't. I shut the door.                                  |
| 8. _____ to Paris?<br>No, she didn't. She flew to Rome.           | 17. _____ at the front of the room?<br>No, she didn't. She stood at the back of the room. |
| 9. _____ your purse?<br>No, I didn't. I lost my wallet.           |   |

## Information Questions

### IRREGULAR VERBS

Use the correct question word (*who, what, where, when, why, how many*) to make questions in the simple past tense. The **bold** words are the answers to the questions.

1. Where did she buy the toy?

She bought the toy **at Walmart**.

2. \_\_\_\_\_

They left the office **at 6:00**.

3. \_\_\_\_\_

She didn't go to work **because she was sick**.

4. \_\_\_\_\_

I spent **\$80.00** on groceries.

5. \_\_\_\_\_

Rosa spoke **to the boss**.\*

6. \_\_\_\_\_

**Rosa** spoke to the boss.\*

7. \_\_\_\_\_

She said "**hello**" to me.

8. \_\_\_\_\_

I felt **sick** yesterday.

9. \_\_\_\_\_

The sun rose **at 6:45 am** yesterday.

10. \_\_\_\_\_

She wore **a beautiful dress** to the party.

11. \_\_\_\_\_

The meeting took place in **Room 29**.

#### **\*Note:**

There is a difference between questions 5 and 6.  
Can you explain the grammar rule?

## Review

### IRREGULAR VERBS

#### A. Choose the Correct Word

Choose the correct verb from the list below to complete the following sentences. Put the verb in the past tense form.

1. She \_\_\_\_\_ a plate when she was washing the dishes.
2. They \_\_\_\_\_ to Paris in a jumbo jet last week.
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ the alarm clock for 7:00 yesterday morning, but I \_\_\_\_\_ up a half-hour before the alarm clock \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I \_\_\_\_\_ a letter to my friend back home.
5. He \_\_\_\_\_ flowers to his girlfriend for her birthday.
6. His mother \_\_\_\_\_ care of him when he \_\_\_\_\_ sick.
7. The teacher \_\_\_\_\_ the mathematics class and then \_\_\_\_\_ the students three exercises to do for homework.
8. Angie \_\_\_\_\_ a bad cold last week. She \_\_\_\_\_ in bed for three days.
9. Matthew \_\_\_\_\_ his wallet on the way to work yesterday. He \_\_\_\_\_ very upset.
10. The children \_\_\_\_\_ in the lake behind their house.
11. We \_\_\_\_\_ a wonderful time at your party last night.
12. I \_\_\_\_\_ groceries on my way home yesterday and I \_\_\_\_\_ in cash.
13. I \_\_\_\_\_ three friends at the café and we \_\_\_\_\_ several cups of coffee together.

#### Word List:

- |         |         |
|---------|---------|
| • buy   | • pay   |
| • ring  | • meet  |
| • lie   | • have  |
| • break | • write |
| • teach | • drink |
| • fly   | • give  |
| • set   | • get   |
| • send  | • take  |
| • wake  | • catch |
| • swim  | • lose  |
| • be    |         |

#### B. Opposites

Write the opposite of each verb below. Make sure to use the past tense. There may be more than one possible opposite, but try to think of one that has an **irregular** past form.

- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. remembered _____ | 6. opened _____         |
| 2. bought _____     | 7. rose (the sun) _____ |
| 3. found _____      | 8. learned _____        |
| 4. brought _____    | 9. floated _____        |
| 5. arrived _____    | 10. saved (money) _____ |

## Time Expressions for the Past

### IRREGULAR VERBS

Complete the following sentences using *yesterday*, *last*, or *ago*.

1. She came to this country three years \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. I was very tired \_\_\_\_\_ week.
3. The class was canceled \_\_\_\_\_ Monday.
4. I spoke to him ten minutes \_\_\_\_\_ .
5. The weather was beautiful \_\_\_\_\_ summer.
6. We went dancing \_\_\_\_\_ night.
7. The boss was away \_\_\_\_\_ morning.
8. We began this class \_\_\_\_\_ fall.
9. The children ran around outside \_\_\_\_\_ afternoon.
10. She got married five years \_\_\_\_\_ .
11. We went skiing a lot \_\_\_\_\_ winter.
12. We went shopping \_\_\_\_\_ afternoon.
13. She left five minutes \_\_\_\_\_ .
14. They left the city a month \_\_\_\_\_ .
15. They came back \_\_\_\_\_ week.

## Class Activity

Walk around the classroom and ask your classmates questions.  
Write the questions in the spaces provided below, and write  
your classmate's name on the right if he/she answers "yes."

#	Find someone...	Question	Classmate
1	who woke up late this morning.		
2	who didn't take the bus to school this morning.		
3	who ate an egg for breakfast this morning.		
4	who saw a good movie on TV last night.		
5	who bought something expensive yesterday.		
6	who had a bad cold last week.		
7	who won something last year.		
8	who read a great book last month.		
9	who heard some interesting gossip last week.		
10	who went on a vacation outside the country last year.		