

Срсп на тему: Past simple tense

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Past simple tense

- The simple past is used to talk about a **completed action** in a time **before now**. Duration is not important. The time of the action can be in the recent past or the distant past.
- We form the simple past of a verb by adding -ed onto the end of a regular verb but, irregular verb forms have to be learnt.
- Examples:
 - Doctor Belova wanted to know the patient's complaints.
 - Patient Smirnov didn't go to local polyclinic.
 - Did the patient feel discomfort in the chest?

USE 1 Completed Action in the Past

Use the Simple Past to express the idea that an action started and finished at a specific time in the past. Sometimes, the speaker may not actually mention the specific time, but they do have one specific time in mind.

Examples:

- I saw a movie yesterday.
- I didn't see a play yesterday.
- Last year, I traveled to Japan.



USE 2 A Series of Completed Actions

- We use the Simple Past to list a series of completed actions in the past. These actions happen 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and so on.
- Examples:
- I finished work, walked to the beach, and found a nice place to swim.
- He arrived from the airport at 8:00, checked into the hotel at 9:00, and met the others at 10:00.
- Did you add flour, pour in the milk, and then add the eggs?



USE 3 Duration in Past

- The Simple Past can be used with a duration which starts and stops in the past. A duration is a longer action often indicated by expressions such as: for two years, for five minutes, all day, all year, etc.
- Examples:
- I **lived** in Brazil for two years.
- Shauna **studied** Japanese for five years.
- They **sat** at the beach all day.



USE 4 Habits in the Past

- The Simple Past can also be used to describe a habit which stopped in the past. It can have the same meaning as "used to." To make it clear that we are talking about a habit, we often add expressions such as: always, often, usually, never, when I was a child, when I was younger, etc.
- Examples:
- I **studied** French when I was a child.
- He **played** the violin.
- He **didn't play** the piano.



USE 5 Past Facts or Generalizations

- The Simple Past can also be used to describe past facts or generalizations which are no longer true. As in USE 4 above, this use of the Simple Past is quite similar to the expression "used to."
- Examples:
- She **was** shy as a child, but now she is very outgoing.
- He **didn't like** tomatoes before.



