

Grammar Unit 7:

Past Simple Tense

Verb to be in past = WAS / WERE

Ser o estar en passat (ERA o ESTAVA)

I	WAS
YOU	WERE
HE	WAS
SHE	WAS
IT	WAS

WE	WERE
YOU	WERE
THEY	WERE

(+) Subject + **WAS / WERE** + complements

(-) Subject + **WAS / WERE** + **NOT** + complements

WAS + NOT = WASN'T

WERE + NOT = WEREN'T

(?) [Wh- QUESTIONS] + **WAS / WERE** + subject + complements?

Examples:

(+) We **were** at home **yesterday**.

(-) We **weren't** at home **last Friday**.

(?) **Were** we at home **last month**? Yes, we were / no, we weren't.

(?) Where **were** we **two weeks ago**? ... at home.

(+) She **was** a famous actress.

(-) She **wasn't** a famous actress.

(?) **Was** she a famous actress? Yes, she was / no, she wasn't.

(?) What **was** she? She **was** a famous actress.

THERE WAS / WERE (There is & There are in Past)

THERE WAS / WERE ... = hi havia ... (singular & plural)

Singular: (+) **There was ...**

(-) **There was not or **there wasn't** ...**

(?) [Wh- QUESTIONS] + **was there ...?**

Plural: (+) **There were ...**

(-) **There were not or **there weren't** ...**

(?) [Wh- QUESTIONS] + **were there?**

Examples:

Singular:

(+) **There was** a fly in the classroom.

(-) **There wasn't** a fly in the classroom.

(?) **Was there** a fly in the classroom?
Yes, there was / no, there wasn't.

(?) **What was there** in the classroom? ... **a fly.**

Plural:

(+) **There were** some flies in the classroom.

(-) **There weren't** **any** flies in the classroom.

(?) **Were there** any flies in the classroom?
Yes, there were / no, there weren't.

(?) **What were there** in the classroom? ... **flies.**

Past Simple Tense: Regular and Irregular verbs

USE: to express an action that we did or happened in the past.

(+) Subject + **VERB IN PAST** + complements

REGULAR / IRREGULAR

-ed ending

2nd column of the list

work / worked

run **ran** run

I **worked** a lot last year

We **ran** a lot in the PE class yesterday

Important! Special points about regular verbs (only in affirmative):

1. -e ending, we only add -d
dance / danced

2. 1 syllable verb, (c + v + c):
we double the last consonant and we add -ed
stop / stopped
clap / clapped

Attention! Help – Helped, not helped !!!

3. Y ending:

If there is a vowel before -y ----- -y never disappears and we add -ed: play / played

If there is a consonant before -y ----- -y changes into -i and we add -ed: cry / cried

4. -l ending: we write double l and we add -ed
travel / travelled

5. Two syllable verb, stressed at the end:
We double the last consonant and we add -ed
prefer / preferred

(-) Subject + DID + NOT + verb in INFINITIVE + complements

DIDN'T = DID NOT

(?) [Wh- QUESTIONS] + DID + subject + verb in INFINITIVE + complements?

EXAMPLES:

Regular verb:

(+) My father **worked** in a bank **two years ago**.

(-) My father **didn't work** in a bank **last year**.

(?) **Did** your father **work** in a bank **10 years ago**?
Yes, he did / no, he didn't.

(?) **Where did** your father **work** **two years ago**?... **in a bank**.

(?) **When did** your father **work** in a bank? ... **10 years ago**.

Irregular verb:

(+) My mum **made** a delicious pizza **yesterday**.

(-) My mum **didn't make** a delicious pizza **last week**.

(?) **Did** my mum **make** a delicious pizza **last Saturday**?
Yes, she did / no, she didn't.

(?) **What did** my mum **make** **two weeks ago**? ... **a pizza**.

(?) **When did** my mum **make** a delicious pizza? ... **yesterday**.

TIME EXPRESSIONS:

Yesterday = ahir

The day before yesterday = abans d'ahir

Last week	la setmana passada
	month	el mes passat
	year	l'any passat
	class	la darrera classe

2, 3, 4, ...	days	ago	Fa 2, 3, 4,	dies
	weeks			setmanes
	months			mesos
	years			anys

in May, **in** 2012, **in** September = past dates

Position:

We place these time expressions **at the end of the sentence** and, occasionally, **at the beginning with comma.**