

Present Simple / Past Simple basics

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Present Simple

It is used to express

1. a habit

"I get up at 6:30"

"He smokes too much"

2. A fact which is always true

"Vegetarians don't eat meat."

"We come from Chile."

3. A fact which is true for a long time.

"I live in Temuco."

"She works in a bank."

Form

Positive and Negative

I You We They	live don't live (do not live)	near here
He She It	lives doesn't live (does not live)	

Question

Where	do	I we you they	live?
	does	he she it	

Past Simple

1. The Past Simple expresses a past action that is now finished.

*We **played** Tennis last Sunday.*

*I **worked** in Santiago from 2002 to 2005.*

*John **left** two minutes ago.*

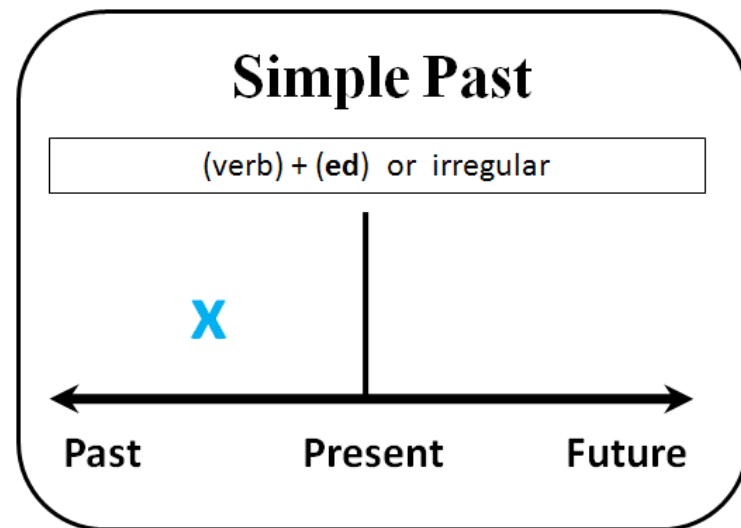
2. Time expressions are commonly used with this tense.

last year

last month

five years ago

yesterday morning



Form

Positive and Negative

I He She It	arrived went	yesterday
We You They	didn't arrive didn't go	

Question

When	did	she/you/they /etc.	arrive?
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Did you go to work yesterday?

Short answer: Yes I did. / No I didn't.

Spelling of regular verbs

1. The normal rule is to add –ed or –d.

worked started lived loved

2. Some short verbs with only one syllable double the consonant.

stopped planned

3. For verbs ending in a consonant + -y, change the –y to –ied.

studied carried

4. There are many common irregular verbs too.

ate broke ran stole

Complete the sentences with the Present Simple form of the verbs in the box.

forget not eat go live play have finish not speak

1. My cousin _____ in the States.
2. I _____ French or Spanish.
3. Bill often _____ people's names.
4. The exam _____ at 12:30 exactly.
5. Nadia _____ very healthy food.
6. I _____ shopping for clothes every weekend.
7. My dad _____ plays the guitar.
8. We _____ a karate lesson on Friday afternoon.

Complete the sentences with the Past Simple of the verbs in brackets.

1. I _____ (stop) working at 8 pm.
2. Nick _____ (work) in a hotel last summer.
3. We _____ (not/see) our friends last week.
4. _____ they _____ (go) to Greece in July?
5. Alan _____ (leave) school in 2005.
6. When _____ you _____ (arrive)?
7. Laura _____ (fix) my computer for me last night.
8. My grandparents _____ have a house by the sea.
9. They _____ (organize) a surprise party for us.