



Università degli Studi del Sannio
Centro Linguistico di Ateneo

LESSON 5

Level A1/A2

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Video realizzato



*Centro Linguistico di Ateneo
Università degli Studi del Sannio*

Lesson 3 - Contents

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The past simple – use (1)

The **past simple** is used in the following situations:

- actions that were completed in the past

Example: *Yesterday it **rained** all day.*

- series of events that happened in the past

Example: *Kasha **was** born in Poland in 1973 and **moved** to England in 1990. She **got** married in 1995 and **divorced** in 2000.*

Remember!

*Il **past simple** si usa per azioni che sono iniziate e si sono completate nel passato. Corrisponde, orientativamente, al passato prossimo e al passato remoto italiani.*

The past simple – use (2)

The **past simple** is often used with words indicating **when** an action happened in the past:

Yesterday; Last (*year, month, week, summer...*); (*two*) (*days, weeks, months, years...*) ***ago***; *the day before yesterday, etc.*

Dates, days of the week, etc. referring to the past usually go with the **past simple**.

The past simple – forms (1)

Verb *to be*

affirmative/negative

I <i>was (not)</i>	We <i>were (not)</i>
You <i>were (not)</i>	You <i>were (not)</i>
He, she, it <i>was (not)</i>	They <i>were (not)</i>

interrogative

Was I...?	Were we...?
Were you...?	Were you...?
Was he, she, it...?	Were they...?

Remember!

Anche al past simple il verbo to be segue regole proprie (le stesse che al present simple).

Example: Last night I **was** at the concert. **Were** you there too?
We **weren't** very hungry last night.

The past simple – forms (2)

Regular verbs

Il *past simple* dei verbi 'regolari' si forma aggiungendo **-ed** alla forma base del verbo.

Interrogative: DID + forma base del verbo

Negative: DID not (didn't) + forma base del verbo

affirmative

I *started*

We *started*

You *started*

You *started*

He, she, it *started*

They *started*

negative

I		
you		
he, she, it	<i>did not / didn't</i>	<i>start</i>
we		
you		
they		

interrogative

	I	
	you	
<i>Did</i>	he, she, it	<i>start?</i>
	we	
	you	
	they	

The past simple – forms (3)

Irregular verbs

Il past simple dei verbi 'irregolari' varia a seconda del verbo.

Interrogative: DID + forma base del verbo

Negative: DID not (didn't) + forma base del verbo

affirmative (*to go*)

I *went*

We *went*

You *went*

You *went*

He, she, it *went*

They *went*

negative

I		
you		
he, she, it	<i>did not / didn't</i>	go
we		
you		
they		

interrogative

	I	
	you	
<i>Did</i>	he, she, it	go?
	we	
	you	
	they	

The past simple – notes

Remember!

Dopo l'ausiliare *did (not)* il verbo va sempre alla forma base e NON al past simple.

Example: They **didn't take**

(NOT *didn't took*) the car yesterday because they wanted to walk.

Remember!

Tranne che nel verbo to be, al **past simple tutte le forme sono uguali**. Non c'è differenza alla 3^a persona come al *present simple*.

The past continuous

The **past continuous** is used in the following situations:

- actions that were happening at a given time in the past

Example: *Last night at 8 I **was cooking** dinner.*

- actions that were happening when something else happened. The other action goes in the past simple.

Example: *They **were climbing** the mountain **when** the storm arrived.*

***While I was waiting** for the bus, I saw a terrible car crash.*

Remember!

Il **past continuous** si forma con:

past simple del verbo to be + forma -ing del verbo principale.

Used to

Used to expresses actions that were usual in the past and are no longer true in the present.

It is followed by the base form of the verb.

Example: *When he was young, my father **used to have** long fair hair.*

Example: *Before the age of e-mails, people **used to write** letters to keep in touch with their friends.*

Interrogative: *What games **did you use to play** when you were a child?*

Negative: *We **didn't use to** go to bed late when we were kids.*