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The **Past Simple** is used to talk about things that happened or existed *before now*.

via https://ell3shank.weebly.com/simple-past.html

**Negative sentences**

We use negative forms of Past Simple to talk about *what we did not do in the past*.

**Regular and irregular verbs**

To make Past Simple negative sentences, we use:

*did not (didn’t) + base form of the verb* (infinitive without ‘to’)*
I did not (didn’t) go
You did not (didn’t) go
He/she/It did not (didn’t) go
We didn’t go
You didn’t go
They didn’t go

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I did not (didn’t) go</td>
<td>We didn’t go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You did not (didn’t) go</td>
<td>You didn’t go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He/she/It did not (didn’t) go</td>
<td>They didn’t go</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Past Simple – NEGATIVES

He went to the shops.

He didn’t go to the shops.

She had a piano lesson.
She didn’t have a piano lesson.

via https://slideplayer.com/slide/256848/

- I didn’t go to school on Monday.
- Stefany didn’t like the meal.
- He didn’t talk to me yesterday.

The verb ‘be’

In Past Simple negative, the verb ‘be’ has two forms — was not (wasn’t) or were not (weren’t):
Singular | Plural
--- | ---
*I was not (wasn’t)* happy | *We weren’t* happy
You *were not (weren’t)* happy | You *weren’t* happy
He/she/it *was not (wasn’t)* happy | They *weren’t* happy

- *I wasn’t* at home last night.
- Mary *wasn’t* at school.
- They *weren’t* happy.

**Questions in Past Simple**

We use **Past Simple** tense to ask and answer questions about actions or events in the past.

**Yes/No questions**

To create a question that will be answered with a ‘yes’ or ‘no’, use ‘*did*’ (or ‘*didn’t*’ for a negative question) + base form of the verb (**infinitive** without ‘to’).

**Regular and irregular verbs**

To ask questions using Past Simple, we use:

**(question word) did + subject + verb**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Did</em> I go?</td>
<td><em>Did</em> we go?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Did</em> you go?</td>
<td><em>Did</em> you go?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Did</em> he/she/it go?</td>
<td><em>Did</em> they go?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- *Did* you go to the supermarket? – No, *I didn’t*.
- *Did* he play football? – Yes, *he did*.
- *Did* they watch a film? – No, *they didn’t*.
Note: we must use did / didn’t with the verb do as well.

- Did she do her homework?
- Yes, she did, but she didn’t do the dishes.

The verb ‘be’

To ask questions using the verb ‘be’, we use:

\[ \text{was / were + subject + the rest of the sentence} \]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Was</strong> I late?</td>
<td><strong>Were</strong> we late?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Were</strong> you late?</td>
<td><strong>Were</strong> you late?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Was</strong> he/she/it late?</td>
<td><strong>Were</strong> they late?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Was** she happy?
- **Was** Tom cold?
- **Were** they upset?

Special questions

Special questions (also known as wh-questions) are questions that require more information in their answers. They are made using wh- words such as **what, where, when, why, which, who, how, how many, how much**.

To make a special question, use the same word order as with yes-no questions but put a wh-word before the verb ‘did’. The structure is:

**wh-word + did + [subject] + verb**

- **When** did you **arrive**?
- **Where** did she **go**?
• Why did they leave?
• How did it happen?

### To sum up:

- **Past Simple questions are made with:**
  - *Did* + person + base verb

- **Questions with *was* or *were* don’t need *did***
  - Who was your favorite teacher?
  - Why were they late?
  - What did you study?
  - Where did you buy this PC from?
  - Did she enjoy the class?

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via https://slideplayer.com/slide/4355307/

Here’s a good video from GoEnglish explaining how to form and use negative and interrogative sentences in Past Simple:

Read more about Past Simple:

**Past Simple: Statements**

**Present Perfect or Past Simple?**
Past Simple Passive