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

![Cartoon image of two dogs, one asking 'Did you eat my food?' and the other responding 'Oh no... I didn’t eat your food!' via https://ell3shank.weebly.com/simple-past.html](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’)

GrammarTOP.com
Past Simple – NEGATIVES

He \textcolor{blue}{\textbf{went}} to the shops.

He \textcolor{blue}{\textbf{didn’t} go} to the shops.

She \textbf{had} a piano lesson.

She \textbf{didn’t have} a piano lesson.

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

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

The verb ‘be’

In Past Simple negative, the verb ‘be’ has two forms — \textbf{was not (wasn’t)} or \textbf{were not (weren’t)}. 
### 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 I go?</em></td>
<td><em>Did we go?</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Did you go?</em></td>
<td><em>Did you go?</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Did he/she/it go?</em></td>
<td><em>Did they go?</em></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*.  

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>I was not (wasn’t) happy</em></td>
<td><em>We weren’t happy</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>You were not (weren’t) happy</em></td>
<td><em>You weren’t happy</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>He/she/it was not (wasn’t) happy</em></td>
<td><em>They weren’t happy</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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:

**was / were + subject + the rest of the sentence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
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<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?
  - What did you study?
  - Where did you buy this PC from?
  - Did she enjoy the class?

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