

Strangers on a Train

A lesson to review the simple
past regular and irregular

Look at the picture and listen to the
story

(mp3 n.12.03, mp3 12.04, mp12.09 and 12.10)



What do you think happened to Olivia? Why Didn't she
show up?

Grammar Rules

Past simple: regular and irregular verbs

I **was** at home last night. I **wasn't** at home last night.

You **were** very late. You **weren't** very late.

He **was** a teacher. He **wasn't** a teacher.

She **was** in bed at 10.00. She **wasn't** in bed at 10.00.

It **was** cold yesterday. It **wasn't** cold yesterday.

You **were** tired last night. You **weren't** tired last night.

We **were** in Spain in May. We **weren't** in Spain in May.

They **were** nice rooms. They **weren't** nice rooms.

Was she tired? Yes, **she was**.

Were they at school? No, **they weren't**.

Where were you at 8.00 this morning? I **was** on the bus.

- *was / were* is the past of *am / is / are*.
- To make questions change the order:

She was at home. → **Was she** at home?

Regular verbs

I **played** tennis yesterday. I **didn't play** tennis yesterday.

They **worked** all weekend. They **didn't work** all weekend.

Did you like the film? Yes, I **did**. No, I **didn't**.

Where **did they stay** in London? They **stayed** in a hotel in Chelsea.

• For regular verbs add *-ed* or *-d* to the infinitive to make the past simple.

Irregular verbs

I **got up** late yesterday. I **didn't get up** late yesterday.

Did you go on holiday last summer? Yes, I **did**. No, I **didn't**.

Where **did you go** on holiday? We **went** to Brazil.

- Some verbs are irregular in the past simple, e.g. *go* → *went*.
 - To make negatives of regular and irregular verbs, use *didn't* + the infinitive, e.g. *I didn't like the film. They didn't go to class.*
 - To make questions with regular and irregular verbs, use *Did* + person + the infinitive, e.g. *Did you like the film? Did they go to class?*
 - **Remember word order in questions: ASI** (Auxiliary, Subject, Infinitive) *Did she want to come?*
- QuASI** (Question word, Auxiliary, Subject, Infinitive) *What time did they get up?*

Listen

1. Listen to this list of regular and irregular verbs. (ms3 n. 12.01)
2. Write the past of these verbs. Then listen and check. (mp3 n.12.02)

- 1- Say _____
- 2- Tell _____
- 3- Finish _____
- 4- Wait _____
- 5- Buy _____
- 6- Phone _____
- 7- Write _____
- 8- Stop _____
- 9- Leave _____
- 10- Send _____
- 11- Arrive _____
- 12- Start _____
- 13- See _____
- 14- Sit _____
- 15- Ask _____

Exercises

Write the past simple of these verbs.

1. arrive _____

2. ask _____

3. do _____

4. get up _____

5. go _____

6. have _____

7. rent _____

8. stay _____

9. visit _____

10. wait _____

11. buy _____

12. send _____

13. leave _____

14. sit _____

15. say _____

16. tell _____

17. see _____

18. write _____

Complete the story with the verbs in (brackets) in the past simple.

Use contractions

Last summer my family and I went to Italy for a holiday. We

_____ (rent) a house in Umbria, in central Italy, about 5 km

from a village called Gubbio. The weather _____ (be)

fantastic, hot and sunny during the day, but cold at night. We

_____ (do) different things every day. Sometimes we

_____ (go) to Perugia or Assisi and _____

(visit) churches and art galleries. On other days we _____

(stay) in the house. It _____ (have) a swimming pool in

the garden, so the children _____ (be) happy. One

afternoon an old man _____ (arrive) at the door.

'Good afternoon,' he _____ (say). 'I'm your neighbour. Are

your children at home?'

'Yes,' I _____ (answer). 'I think so. Why?'

'Because about an hour ago I _____ (see) a small boy near

the village. I think he was your son.'

I _____ (look) out of the window. My daughter

_____ (be) in the swimming pool, but my son _____

(not be) there. 'Where _____ you _____ (see)

him?' I _____ (ask). ' _____ you _____



(talk) to him?' 'He was on the road to the village, but I _____
(not speak) to him,' the old man _____ (say).

'Come on,' I _____ (tell) my husband. 'We need to go to
the village.' The old man _____ (wait) at the house with
my daughter and we _____ (go) to the village.

My son _____ (be) outside a café. He _____
(have) a big ice cream in his hand.

'Why _____ you _____ (leave) the house?' I
asked him. 'We _____ (be) really worried.'

'I _____ (want) an ice cream,' he said.

**Complete the conversation with the past simple of the verbs in
(brackets).**

A Jack! Over here!

B Olivia! It's great to see you!

A _____ a good trip? (you / have)

B Yes, thanks. _____ fine. (it / be)

A Are you hungry?

B No, _____ lunch on the train. (I / have)

A Really? What _____ ? (you / have)

B Some sandwiches. _____ them at the station this

morning. (I / buy)

A Good idea. _____ to the station? (you / drive)

B No, _____ a taxi. (I / get)

A Did you? What time _____ home? (you / leave)

B _____ at 7 o'clock. (taxi / arrive)

A That's early! Are you tired?

B A bit. _____ well last night. (I / not sleep)

A Well, here's my car. Let's go home and you can relax.

Complete the sentences with the past simple of a verb from the list.

		arrive	ask	do	get		
up	go	have	rent	stay	visit	wait	

1 I _____ very late this morning.

2 We _____ at the airport at six o'clock in the evening.

3 I _____ dinner in a restaurant last night.

4 I _____ for the bus for two hours.

5 We _____ in a hotel near the beach.

6 I _____ to Turkey for my holidays last year.

7 I _____ my girlfriend to marry me in Paris.

8 I _____ a lot of exercise last week.

9 My parents _____ us last weekend.

10 I _____ a bike to travel round the island.