

PAST SIMPLE

EXERCISE 1

Complete the sentences by using the appropriate form of the Simple Past.

1. Where you (go) last night?
2. We (be) very tired, so we (not go) out for dinner.

We (stay) at home and (watch) a movie on TV.
3. Who (be) at the party with Sara last Sunday?
4. When your parents (arrive)?
5. They (arrive) around half past 10 at the central

- station, then they (take) the metro and (visit) the town centre.
6. 'What (happen) to Julie? She (not be) at school yesterday.' 'Maybe she (have) a cold.'
7. When you (be) a child, where you (live)?
8. your friends (have) a good time in Mexico last summer?
9. There (not be) any wine at home, and so my mother (go) to the supermarket to buy a bottle.
10. Yesterday Peter (not do) his homework and this morning his teacher (be) angry with him.
11. 'When your parents (be born)?' 'My father (be born) in 1954 and my mother in 1955.'

12. Poor Michael! His wife (die) last January.
It (be) a real shock for him and he (go mad).
13. When her brother (be) 6 years old, he
(be afraid) of the dark.
14. 'Oh, Gina! What a beautiful dress you're wearing today!
When you (buy) it?'
15. 'Well, I (not buy) it! It (be) a
present for my birthday!'
16. I think William is sick. Last night he (not have)
dinner and before going to bed he (take) an
aspirin.

PAST SIMPLE WITH COULD

Could can be used to express a person's ability in the past.

It is combined with the *past simple* to describe what a person was or was not able to do at a certain time in their life.

E.g. When I was 10 years old, I couldn't drive a car.

When I was 6 years old, I could ride a bicycle.

EXERCISE 1.

Complete the following situations using *could* or *couldn't* to express what you were or were not able to do when you were young.

e.g. *When I was 15 years old I could play tennis very well.*

1 year old (not speak)

1. _____.

5 years old (run)

2. _____ faster than my brother.

10 years old (build)

3. _____ model aeroplanes all by myself.

3 years old (not tie)

4. _____ my shoelace.

17 years old (eat)

5. _____ three hamburgers for dinner.

2 years old (not jump)

6. _____ over a puddle.

EXERCISE 2.

Use your imagination to answer the following questions.

1. What could/couldn't you do when you were 4 years old?

2. What could/couldn't you do when you were 15 years old?
