

A1

Past simple: to be e to have (got)



Forma affermativa (to be)	
presente	passato
I am	I was
You are	You were
He is	He was
She is	She was
It is	It was
We are	We were
You are	You were
They are	They were

- Il **Past simple** indica un'azione iniziata e conclusa nel passato, anche nel passato recente.
- Corrisponde al **passato prossimo**, al **passato remoto** e all'**imperfetto**.



- Il **Past simple** è spesso accompagnato da **espressioni di tempo** come *yesterday, last year, two months ago, in 2010*.

You **are** at home **today**. → You **were** at school **yesterday**.

Carlo **is** my History teacher **this year**.

→ Carlo **was** a History student **last year**.

- L'espressione inglese **be born** corrisponde all'italiano **essere nati, nascere**. In inglese il verbo **to be** viene sempre usato al passato: si usano **was** e **were** sia nella domanda sia nella risposta.



• When **was** Tom **born**?

• He **was born** in 2000.



• Quando **è nato** Tom?

• **È nato** nel 2000.

Forma negativa (to be)	
estesa	contratta
I was not	I wasn't
You were not	You weren't
He was not	He wasn't
She was not	She wasn't
It was not	It wasn't
We were not	We weren't
You were not	You weren't
They were not	They weren't

- La **forma negativa** del **Past simple** di **to be** si forma aggiungendo **not** dopo **was** e **were**.
- Le **forme contratte**, assai frequenti nel parlato e nello scritto informale, sono **wasn't** e **weren't**.

She **was not** happy when she was a child.

→ She **wasn't** happy when she was a child.

They **were not** with their friends yesterday.

→ They **weren't** with their friends yesterday.

Forma interrogativa (to be)		
	risposte brevi (short answers)	
	affermativa	negativa
Was I...?	Yes, you were .	No, you weren't .
Were you...?	Yes, I was .	No, I wasn't .
Was he...?	Yes, he was .	No, he wasn't .
Was she...?	Yes, she was .	No, she wasn't .
Was it...?	Yes, it was .	No, it wasn't .
Were we...?	Yes, you were .	No, you weren't .
Were you...?	Yes, we were .	No, we weren't .
Were they...?	Yes, they were .	No, they weren't .

- La **forma interrogativa** del **Past simple** di **to be** si ottiene mettendo il verbo davanti al soggetto.
- Le **risposte brevi** hanno costruzione analoga a quella del **Present simple** (► pagina 22).

• **Was** Dante a great poet?

• Yes, he **was**.

• **Was** Dante born in Pisa?

• No, he **wasn't**.

• **Were** they at school this morning?

• Yes, **they were**. / No, **they weren't**.

Forma affermativa (have got)	
presente	passato
I have (got)	I had
You have (got)	You had
He has (got)	He had
She has (got)	She had
It has (got)	It had
We have (got)	We had
You have (got)	You had
They have (got)	They had

- Il **Past simple** di **to have** / **have got** ha **un'unica forma (had)** per tutte le persone.
- Le forme **negativa** e **interrogativa** seguono la costruzione del **Past simple** dei verbi irregolari (► pagina 165).



Alla forma **had** NON si aggiunge **mai** il rafforzativo **got**.

We've **got** a red car. → We **had** a red car **two years ago**.
(NON I ~~had got~~ a red car **two years ago**.)

1 Coniuga il verbo **to be** al **Past simple**.

✓ I **was** at Mario's last night.

- 1 Last night there a lot of food at the party.
- 2 My grandparents from Argentina.
- 3 Mark late again yesterday.
- 4 My dog in the garden yesterday afternoon.
- 5 Your homework very good.
- 6 You born in the USA.

2 Riscrivi alla forma **negativa** le frasi dell'esercizio precedente.

3 Riscrivi al **Past simple** utilizzando i suggerimenti dati.

✓ I have a big dog. (last year) → I **had** a big dog last year.

- 1 Leyla has a headache. (yesterday morning)
- 2 We have fun on holiday. (on our last holiday)
- 3 They have a lot homework. (last week)

●●● 4 Ieri c'è stata una festa di compleanno. Completa le domande e le risposte.

- ✓ ● Was it (it) a good party?
 ● Yes, it was . I'm sorry you weren't there!



- 1 ● Lisa and her brother Jim there?
 ● Yes, they But they late as usual!
- 2 ● How the food? ● It very good. There a lot of sandwiches and crisps, but they too spicy (= *troppo piccanti*) for me!
- 3 ● there any desserts?
 ● Yes, there a lot, and they good!
- 4 ● the birthday cake big?
 ● Yes, it ! And it delicious too!
 It a fantastic strawberry cheesecake!
- 5 ● Marta happy?
 ● Yes, she But her parents (not)!
- 6 ● Why? ● Because there a lot of noise until midnight and, at the end, there (not) a single thing (= *una sola cosa*) in its place! Martha's house a mess.
- 7 ● they very angry? ● No, they They just a bit tired and worried about the mess.

5 GRAMMAR ROCKS! Quiz Time. Completa con il Past simple di to be e poi abbinia il personaggio giusto.

- ☐ 1 He born in Stratford-upon-Avon. He a great playwright (= *drammaturgo*).
- ☐ 2 He the first Englishman to navigate the Strait of Magellan to get to the Pacific Ocean.
- ☐ 3 He the first president of the United States of America.

- a Francis Drake.
 b William Shakespeare.
 c George Washington.



a



b



c

A1 / A2

Past simple: verbi regolari e irregolari (forma affermativa)

This morning
I picked this
flower for you!



Forma affermativa (to walk)	
I	walk <u>ed</u>
You	walk <u>ed</u>
He / She / It	walk <u>ed</u>
We	walk <u>ed</u>
You	walk <u>ed</u>
They	walk <u>ed</u>

- Il **Past simple** dei **verbi regolari** si forma aggiungendo **-ed** alla forma base del verbo. Ciò vale per **tutte le persone**. Il verbo può subire una trasformazione ortografica:

Se il verbo termina in -e : dance <u>e</u> , love <u>e</u>	si aggiunge solo -d : danced <u>d</u> , loved <u>d</u> .
Se il verbo termina in consonante + -y : study <u>y</u>	la -y diventa i e si aggiunge -ed : stud <u>ied</u> .
Se il verbo termina in vocale + -y : play <u>y</u>	dopo la -y si aggiunge -ed : play <u>ed</u> .
Se il verbo è composto da una sola sillaba e termina con una vocale + consonante : stop <u>p</u>	si raddoppia la consonante e si aggiunge -ed : stop <u>pped</u> .

- I **verbi irregolari** al **Past simple** hanno una forma **diversa** da quella in **-ed**. La maggior parte dei verbi irregolari al **Past simple** ha una forma propria che deve essere imparata a memoria (► pagina 165):

Forma base	Past simple
do	did
go	went
buy	bought
eat	ate

Forma base	Past simple
find	found
see	saw
write	wrote
speak	spoke

Last year Sara **went** on holiday to Spain. = Lo scorso anno Sara **è andata** / **andò** in vacanza in Spagna.

We **bought** a lot of souvenirs when we **went** to Thailand. = **Abbiamo comprato** / **Comprammo** molti souvenir quando **siamo andati** / **andammo** in Thailandia.

- Alcuni **verbi irregolari** hanno forma identica al **Present simple** e al **Past simple**:

cut → **cut** let → **let** put → **put** cost → **cost**

1 Riscrivi i verbi regolari tra parentesi al **Past simple**.

✓ You **liked** (like) the show very much.

- Alex (live) in Australia for a long time.
- They (open) a new shop in Regent Street.
- Your letter (arrive) before Christmas.
- We (work) hard on that project.

2 Leggi e completa con l'opzione corretta.

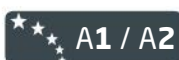
Last summer we¹ to Greece for two weeks. We² with a group of friends and we³ a great time there. We⁴ a house by the sea in a small village called Koroni, on the Peloponnesian coast. There⁵ two wonderful beaches, and we often⁶ the whole day (= *l'intera giornata*) there. We⁷ great food and relaxed! One day, we also⁸ some new-born sea turtles leaving their nest (= *nido*) and going towards the sea. It⁹ a fantastic experience!

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> a go | <input type="checkbox"/> b wanted | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c went |
| 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> a live | <input type="checkbox"/> b left | <input type="checkbox"/> c leaved |
| 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> a had | <input type="checkbox"/> b have | <input type="checkbox"/> c haved |
| 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> a rented | <input type="checkbox"/> b rent | <input type="checkbox"/> c rents |
| 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> a was | <input type="checkbox"/> b wasn't | <input type="checkbox"/> c were |
| 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> a spend | <input type="checkbox"/> b spended | <input type="checkbox"/> c spent |
| 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> a swimmied | <input type="checkbox"/> b swam | <input type="checkbox"/> c swim |
| 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> a ate | <input type="checkbox"/> b eat | <input type="checkbox"/> c eated |
| 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> a see | <input type="checkbox"/> b seed | <input type="checkbox"/> c saw |
| 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> a wasn't | <input type="checkbox"/> b were | <input type="checkbox"/> c was |

●●● 3 Riscrivi al **Past simple** utilizzando le espressioni date.

✓ I leave for Ireland with my parents. (last Monday)
→ I left for Ireland with my parents last Monday.

- 1 I go to school by bus. (yesterday)
- 2 We meet a lot of friends at your birthday party. (last Saturday)
- 3 Anna and Tom fall in love at first sight (= *a prima vista*). (last month)
- 4 Clare writes to her parents every day. (yesterday afternoon)
- 5 They speak French with their cousins. (last year)
- 6 You buy a lot of books for your children. (last week)



Past simple: verbi regolari e irregolari (forme negativa e interrogativa)

Forma negativa	
estesa	contratta
I did not do	I didn't do
You did not go	You didn't go
He did not have	He didn't have
She did not watch	She didn't watch
It did not work	It didn't work
We did not study	We didn't study
You did not wait	You didn't wait
They did not buy	They didn't buy

- La **forma negativa** del **Past simple** dei verbi regolari e irregolari si ottiene, per tutte le persone, inserendo **did + not** prima della forma base.
I **didn't understand** the lesson this morning.
- Nel **parlato** e nello **scritto informale** si usa maggiormente la **forma contratta**, **didn't**.

Forma interrogativa		
did	soggetto + forma base	risposte brevi (<i>short answers</i>)
Did	I / you / he / she / it / we / you / they work ?	Yes , I / you / he / she / it / we / you / they did .
		No , I / you / he / she / it / we / you / they didn't .

- La **forma interrogativa** del **Past simple** dei verbi regolari e irregolari si ottiene inserendo l'ausiliare **did** prima del soggetto e della forma base del verbo.

Did they meet Judy last night?

What **did you do** on holiday?

- Nelle **risposte brevi** si ripete solo l'ausiliare.

☑ **Did you like** the film?

☑ Yes, I **did**. / No, I **didn't**.



Anche con il **Past simple** le **question words** (Who, What, Where, etc.) si mettono sempre all'**inizio** della frase interrogativa.

☑ **Who** did Little Red Riding Hood meet in the woods?

☑ She met the wolf.

- **1 Scrivi frasi alla forma negativa del Past simple usando i suggerimenti.**

- 1 I / ride my bike / to work / this morning
- 2 it / rain / yesterday
- 3 Lisa / take the bus / yesterday morning
- 4 Mum / make dinner / last night

- **2 Riscrivi le frasi alla forma negativa.**

✓ I won the lottery last week
→ I **didn't win the lottery last week**.....

- 1 Carlo and Camilla got married last year.
- 2 We read *Gullivers' Travels* in class.
- 3 My mother enjoyed London very much.
- 4 George seemed very happy last night.
- 5 I bought a present for my dad's birthday.
- 6 They spent their weekend at home.

- **3 Utilizzando gli elementi dell'esercizio precedente, scrivi frasi alla forma interrogativa del Past simple.**

- 4 Scrivi delle domande con le espressioni date. Poi rispondi con le **short answers**.

✓ You / turn off the TV? (✓)

→ Did you turn off the TV? Yes, I did.

- 1 Her parents / divorce last year? (✗)
- 2 Your brother / speak with the principal? (✓)
- 3 Virgil / write *The Odyssey*? (✗)
- 4 You / paint your house yourself? (✓)
- 5 Mark / help you with your homework? (✗)
- 6 She call / the police when she crashed her car? (✓)



Past continuous



Forma affermativa		
I	was	walking.
He / She / It		
We	were	
You		
They		

- Il **Past continuous** descrive ciò che stava accadendo in un certo momento del **passato**.
- Si forma con il **Past simple** di **to be** + la forma in **-ing** del verbo principale e corrisponde alle forme italiane "stare (all'imperfetto) + gerundio" e all'imperfetto.

Yesterday at 4 p.m. I **was reading**. = Ieri alle quattro del pomeriggio **stavo leggendo / leggevo**.

- Descrive azioni che hanno una certa continuità e azioni interrotte da altre azioni (che di norma sono espresse al **Past simple**).

I was sleeping when the phone rang. = **Stavo dormendo / Dormivo** quando squillò il telefono.

Forma negativa		
I	was not (wasn't)	walking.
He / She / It		
We	were not (weren't)	
You		
They		

- La **forma negativa** si esprime con il: **Past simple** di **to be** + **not** + forma in **-ing** del verbo principale.

They weren't working when the director called.

Forma interrogativa		
Was	I	walking?
	He / She / It	
Were	We	
	You	
	They	

- La **forma interrogativa** si ottiene invertendo la posizione di **to be** e quella del soggetto.

Were you playing tennis yesterday at 5 p.m.?

Risposte brevi (short answers)		
Yes,	I / he / she / it	was.
	we / you / they	were.
No,	I / he / she / it	wasn't.
	we / you / they	weren't.

- Nelle **risposte brevi** si ripete il verbo **to be** al passato.

☹ **Were they studying** when the news arrived?

☺ Yes, they **were.** /
No, they **weren't.**



Ricorda: il **Past simple** descrive un'azione iniziata e conclusa nel passato, il **Past continuous** descrive un'azione in corso di svolgimento nel passato.

Ricorda anche che con i verbi di **sentimento** (like, love, ...), di **attività mentale** (know, understand, ...), di **possesso** (have got), di **stato** (be, need, ...), di **volontà** (want) NON si usa né il **Present** né il **Past continuous**. **Think** fa eccezione se ha significato di "valutare la possibilità".

●○○ **1 Riscrivi i verbi tra parentesi al Past continuous.**

✓ It was snowing (snow) when I got home.

1 Mary (make) dinner when she cut her finger.

2 They (watch) TV last night.

3 I (wait) outside when it started raining.

4 Miss Marple (ask) some questions when the police arrived.

5 We (dance) and (have fun) last Friday.

6 Simon (listen) to music this afternoon.

●●○ **2 Scrivi alla forma negativa e interrogativa del Past continuous le frasi dell'esercizio precedente.**

●●● **3 Bill (B) e Lucy (L) discutono di una festa interrotta dall'arrivo dei genitori di Bill. Completa coniugando i verbi tra parentesi al Past continuous.**

✓ L: What was Ellie doing when your parents arrived?

B: She was dancing wildly (= *scatenata*) with Linda and Clare.

L: What Alvie and Sammy¹ (do)?

B: They² (eat) popcorn and³ (drink) cola on the floor.

L: Martha⁴ (play) the piano?

B: No, she wasn't. She⁵ (try on = *provare*) my mother's shoes!

L: Amy⁶ (play) the piano?

B: Yes, she⁷. And Arnold⁸ (sing) loudly.

L: What your cousin Tyron⁹ (do)?

B: He¹⁰ (read) my father's books on the sofa.

L: And you? What you¹¹ (do)?

B: I¹² (eat) ice cream and¹³ (have) fun. And I¹⁴ (think): 'I love parties!'





Round up

1 Completa con il Past simple dei verbi dati.

like • live • meet • buy • be • go • have • become • break

- 1 Jenny and Anna a nice gift for their mum yesterday.
- 2 Mrs Thomson my English teacher from 2001 to 2003.
- 3 I a big house when I in Venice.
- 4 We to Spain for Christmas. We really it!
- 5 Tom and Fred at school and friends.
- 6 My leg hurts! I it last week, during a football match.

2 Scrivi alla forma negativa del Past simple le seguenti frasi.

- 1 My dog ate my lunch!
- 2 I sent your letter from the post office.
- 3 We enjoyed the show.
- 4 They came by bus and were tired.
- 5 She wrote a love song for her boyfriend.
- 6 The museum closed at 6 p.m.

3 Scrivi alla forma interrogativa del Past simple e rispondi con le short answers.

- 1 J.K. Rowling / write / *Harry Potter* (✓)
- 2 you / sleep well (✗)
- 3 Bart / wash / his socks (✗)
- 4 they / call / their parents (✓)

4 Completa con il Past continuous o il Past simple.

Joe: you¹ (work) when I² (arrive)?

Nina: No, I³ (be). I⁴ (read) the paper.
I⁵ (take) a break after a long day!

Joe: And what the children⁶ (do) when
I⁷ (ring) the bell?

Nina: They⁸ (be) in bed, but they⁹
(not sleep).