

Past and Present Tenses



Simple Past or Simple Present?



Think about some of the things you do every morning before school.

E.g. I get up.

I walk downstairs.

What verbs did you use in the sentences you said aloud to your partner?

E.g. get, walk, brush, eat, play.

These verbs are in the present tense. You use present tense verbs to talk about the things you do now and on a regular basis. The simple present tense is used to describe something which is true at this moment in time.



Simple Past or Simple Present?



These children are talking about the things they did last weekend. They are using the simple past tense.

I listened to my favourite music.



I walked up a big hill with my family.

I played in the garden.



Write the verbs used in these sentences onto your whiteboards.

Simple Past or Simple Present?



These verbs are in the simple past.

I **listened** to my favourite music.

I **walked** up a big hill with my family.

I **played** in the garden.

The **simple past tense** is used to describe events which have already happened.

Simple Present Tense Verbs	Simple Past Tense Verbs
brush walk play	brushed walked played

Simple Past Tense Verbs



The verbs in each sentence tell us if the sentence is in the past tense or the present tense.

Many past tense verbs end in -ed:

played
jumped
skipped
walked
screamed
started
cried
carried



Can you remember the rules for adding -ed to words ending in a consonant and then -y?

If the verb ends in a consonant and then y, change it to an i and then add -ed.

cried

Simple Past Tense Verbs



Also, remember...

If the verb ends in a vowel followed by a 'y', just add 'ed'.

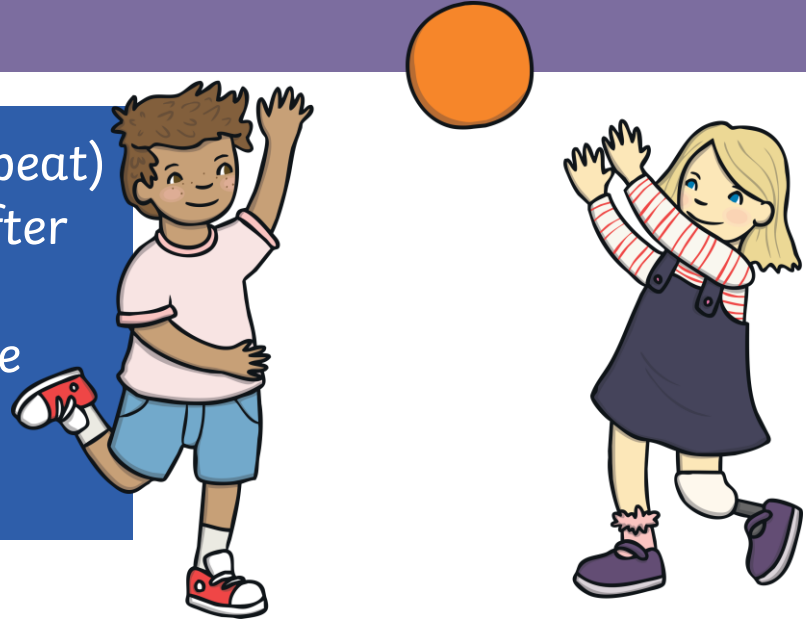
E.g. play – played

If a verb ends in an 'e', just add 'd'.

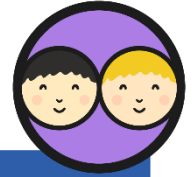
E.g. wade – waded.

If a verb has just one syllable (beat) and has one consonant letter after a single vowel letter at the end, double the last consonant before adding 'ed'.

E.g. skip - skipped

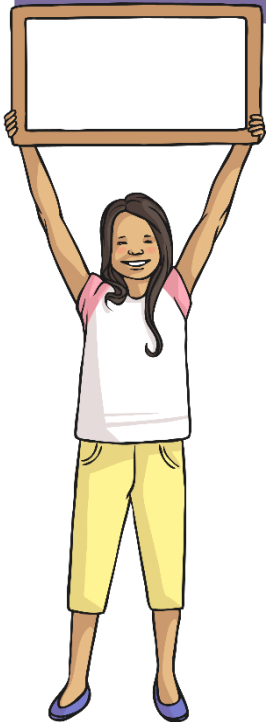


Simple Past Tense Verbs



Some past tense words are irregular. This means they don't follow the rule of adding -ed.

Look at these words. Do you know what the past tense word for these words are? Work with your partner to write them on your whiteboard.



run

swim

begin

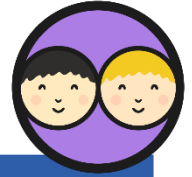
go

drink

see



Spot the Mistake



When we are writing, it is important that the tense we use stays consistent. That means if we begin writing in the past tense, we must use the past tense all the way through.

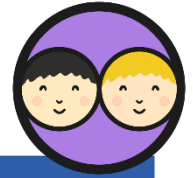
Look at the paragraph below. The writer began writing in the past tense. Can you spot the mistakes?

Lucy woke up early on Sunday morning. She stretched and looked over to her window. Suddenly, she remembers that it is snowing just before she went to bed last night. She jumped out of bed and races to the window. Outside the ground was covered in deep, soft snow.



Which words would you use instead?

Spot the Mistake - answers



When we are writing, it is important that the tense we use stays consistent. That means if we begin writing in the past tense, we must use the past tense all the way through.

Look at the paragraph below. The writer began writing in the past tense. Can you spot the mistakes?

Lucy woke up early on Sunday morning. She stretched and looked over to her window. Suddenly, she remembers that it is snowing just before she went to bed last night. She jumped out of bed and races to the window. Outside the ground was covered in deep, soft snow.



Which words would you use instead?

