

Simple Past

Il *simple past* si usa per parlare di **azioni concluse** che si sono svolte **nel passato**. La durata dell'azione è irrilevante. L'azione può essersi svolta in un passato prossimo o remoto.

Il *simple past* si utilizza sempre per indicare **in che momento** si è verificato un avvenimento; pertanto, questo tempo è sempre associato a un determinato tipo di espressioni temporali.

- **frequenza:** *often, sometimes, always*

I *sometimes* **walked** home at lunchtime.

I *often* **brought** my lunch to school.

- **un momento preciso:** *last week, when I was a child, yesterday, six weeks ago*

We **saw** a good film *last week*.

Yesterday, I **arrived** in Geneva.

She **finished** her work *at seven o'clock*

I **went** to the theatre *last night*

- **un momento non preciso:** *the other day, ages ago, a long time ago*

People **lived** in caves *a long time ago*.

She **played** the piano *when she was a child*.

Nota: la parola *ago* è un termine utile per esprimere la distanza nel passato. Si colloca **dopo** il periodo di tempo: *a week ago, three years ago, a minute ago*.

COME SI FORMA IL "SIMPLE PAST"

VERBI REGOLARI

Forma Affermativa

Sogg + verbo+ed I studied

Forma Negativa

Sogg + did not (didn't) + verbo (forma base) I didn't study

Forma Interrogativa

Did + sogg + verbo (forma base) Did you study?

Risposta Breve

Yes + sogg + did

No, + sogg + didn't

VERBI IRREGOLARI

Alcuni verbi sono irregolari al simple past. Ecco un elenco dei più comuni.

Forma base	Simple Past	Participio Passato	In italiano
------------	-------------	-----------------------	-------------

awake	awoke	awoken	<i>svegliare</i>
be	was/were	been	<i>essere</i>
become	became	become	<i>diventare</i>
begin	began	begun	<i>cominciare</i>
bite	bit	bitten	<i>mordere</i>
break	broke	broken	<i>rompere</i>
bring	brought	brought	<i>portare</i>
build	built	built	<i>costruire</i>
burn	burned/burnt	burned/burnt	<i>bruciare</i>
buy	bought	bought	<i>comperare</i>
can	could	===	<i>potere</i>
catch	caught	caught	<i>afferrare</i>
choose	chose	chosen	<i>scegliere</i>
come	came	come	<i>venire</i>
cost	cost	cost	<i>costare</i>
cut	cut	cut	<i>tagliare</i>
do	did	done	<i>fare</i>
draw	drew	drawn	<i>disegnare, tirare</i>
dream	dreamed/dreamt	dreamed/dreamt	<i>sognare</i>
drink	drank	drunk	<i>bere</i>
drive	drove	driven	<i>guidare</i>
eat	ate	eaten	<i>mangiare</i>
fall	fell	fallen	<i>cadere</i>
feel	felt	felt	<i>sentire, provare</i>
fight	fought	fought	<i>combattere</i>
find	found	found	<i>trovare</i>
fly	flew	flown	<i>volare</i>
forbid	forbade	forbidden	<i>proibire</i>
forget	forgot	forgotten	<i>dimenticare</i>
get	got	got	<i>ottenere, diventare</i>
give	gave	given	<i>dare</i>
go	went	gone	<i>andare</i>

grow	grew	grown	<i>crescere, coltivare</i>
have	had	had	<i>avere</i>
hear	heard	heard	<i>udire</i>
hide	hid	hidden	<i>nascondere</i>
hit	hit	hit	<i>colpire</i>
hold	held	held	<i>tenere</i>
hurt	hurt	hurt	<i>far male</i>
keep	kept	kept	<i>tenere, trattenere</i>
know	knew	known	<i>sapere, conoscere</i>
lay	laid	laid	<i>stendere, poggiare</i>
learn	learned/learnt	learned/learnt	<i>imparare</i>
leave	left	left	<i>lasciare, partire</i>
let	let	let	<i>lasciare, permettere</i>
lose	lost	lost	<i>perdere</i>
make	made	made	<i>fare</i>
mean	meant	meant	<i>significare</i>
meet	met	met	<i>incontrare, conoscere</i>
pay	paid	paid	<i>pagare</i>
put	put	put	<i>mettere</i>
read	read	read	<i>leggere</i>
ride	rode	ridden	<i>cavalcare</i>
ring	rang	rung	<i>squillare</i>
rise	rose	risen	<i>umentare, sorgere</i>
run	ran	run	<i>correre</i>
say	said	said	<i>dire</i>
see	saw	seen	<i>vedere</i>
sell	sold	sold	<i>vendere</i>
send	sent	sent	<i>inviare</i>
show	showed	shown	<i>mostrare</i>
sing	sang	sung	<i>cantare</i>
sit	sat	sat	<i>sedersi</i>
sleep	slept	slept	<i>dormire</i>

smell	smelled/smelt	smelled/smelt	<i>odorare</i>
speak	spoke	spoken	<i>parlare</i>
spend	spent	spent	<i>spendere, trascorrere</i>
stand	stood	stood	<i>stare in piedi</i>
steal	stole	stolen	<i>rubare</i>
swim	swam	swum	<i>nuotare</i>
take	took	taken	<i>prendere, portare</i>
teach	taught	taught	<i>insegnare</i>
tell	told	told	<i>dire</i>
think	thought	thought	<i>pensare</i>
throw	threw	thrown	<i>gettare</i>
understand	understood	understood	<i>comprendere</i>
undertake	undertook	undertaken	<i>intraprendere</i>
wake	woke/waked	woken/waked	<i>svegliare</i>
wear	wore	worn	<i>indossare</i>
win	won	won	<i>vincere</i>
write	wrote	written	<i>scrivere</i>

Exercise: 1 Complete with the correct form of the SIMPLE PAST

- 1) I (live) London three years ago.
- 2) (do) Mary work for an American company?
- 3) Sarah (have) coffee for breakfast yesterday.
- 4) They (drink) a Coke and a beer at the pub.
- 5) She (go) away without saying a word.
- 6) I (sleep) well last night.
- 7) My mother (make) a nice cake yesterday.
- 8) Roberta (speak) English very well when she was just a child.
- 9) They (meet) in New York last month.
- 10) Mark (teach) Spanish last year in Rome.

2 Complete with the negative form.

1. I phoned Lucy last night. → I Lucy last night.

2. You tidied up your room. → You up your room.

3. Olivia became an actress. → Olivia an actress.

We found the treasure. → We the treasure.

4. He spoke Spanish. → He Spanish.

3 Complete.

1. (you/dance) at the party last night?

2. (she/do) her homework?

3. (Robert/work) at the post office?

4. (they/help) you with the washing-up?

5. When (I/say) that?

