

Simple Past: Regular Verbs

FORM:

Regular verbs are those verbs which end in “-ed” in the past tense.

USE:

Spelling Notes:

1. Usually, you just add “-ed”. Example: pull → pulled
2. Verbs ending in “-y” become “-ied”. Example: try → tried
Not all verbs ending in “y” become -ied. If preceded by a vowel they keep “y”
play → played
3. Words which end with a single vowel followed by a single consonant double the consonant before adding “-ed”. (Exceptions: “-w, -x”)
Examples: plan → planned, control → controlled, tow → towed, box → boxed
4. Words ending in “-c” become “-cked” in the past tense.
Example: panic → panicked

Pronunciation Notes:

The pronunciation of “-ed” changes in different environments. To understand how, put your fingers on your Adam’s apple and make an “s” sound. You will not feel any vibration. Now make a “z” sound. You will feel a vibration. This is because you open your larynx, and the result is called voice. It is the only difference between “s” and “z”, and between several other sounds.

- If the final sound of a base verb is voiced, that is, it ends with a vowel sound or a sound such as those produced by “z, g, b, or v” the “-ed” is pronounced like a “d”.

Examples: *buzzed, plugged, probed, lived*

- If the final sound of a base verb is voiceless, that is it ends with a sound such as that produced by “s, k or p”, the “-ed” is pronounced like a “t”.

Examples: *passed, cracked, ripped*

- If the final sound of the base verb is a “d” or a “t”, add the sound /ə/ (uh) before the “d” sound.

Examples: *planted, decided*

EXAMPLES:

I passed (pass) the slow-moving truck on the freeway yesterday.

She played (play) soccer last night.

They decided (decide) to order pizza for lunch last Sunday.

Beginner 2 – Exercise 17 – Simple Past: Regular Verbs

Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb.

1. We _____ (work) in the garden yesterday.
2. I _____ (watch) television last night.
3. We both _____ (like) the movie which we saw yesterday.
4. He _____ (change) planes in Toronto early this morning.
5. They _____ (study) for the test last night.
6. She _____ (arrive) late for the meeting.
7. He _____ (mail) that letter for me yesterday.
8. Jim and Ed _____ (learn) to swim last summer.
9. They _____ (paint) their house white.
10. The meeting _____ (last) almost three hours.

Complete the following sentences, using your own words and the SIMPLE PAST of the verb in brackets.

1. We (talk) _____
2. He and I (watch) _____
3. She (study) _____
4. They (wait) _____
5. I (live) _____
6. You (enjoy) _____
7. It (rain) _____
8. Laura and Kevin (walk) _____

Beginner 2 – Exercise 17 – Simple Past: Regular Verbs

Correct the mistakes in these sentences to make correct sentences with the SIMPLE PAST.

1. You and I work in the garden yesterday.

2. I watched television tomorrow.

3. Sandra watches a movie last night.

4. He changes planes in Toronto early this morning.

5. She arrive late for the meeting.

6. He mailed that letter next week.

7. She and I was happy because it stop raining.

8. Karen paints their house last year.
