

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE ASUNCIÓN

COLEGIO EXPERIMENTAL PARAGUAY–BRASIL

Homework Tasks

Read and Exercise

Name_____

N°_____

The present tenses can be used to talk about the present, general time and even the future. Do you know how to use them well? Let’s revise them one by one.

Here are some example sentences in the **Present Simple** and the **Present Continuous** tense. Can you work out (or remember) the rules?

The sun **rises** in the east and **sets** in the west.
I always **get up** at 7 am.
What **do you like** to eat for breakfast?
The bus **leaves** at 10 to, so hurry up!
She’s **not listening** to me now, she’s **reading** her favorite book.
I **live** in the city, but I’m **spending** this month at my aunt’s in the country.
Jason **is working** on Saturday; he can’t come to the party.

Present tenses	How to make this tense?	What is it used for?	Examples
PRESENT SIMPLE	Verb Verb+s in the 3 rd person singular (he, she, it) watch/watches	1) a present situation 2) a general fact 3) habits, routines 4) future timetables! 5) future after these time adverbials: when, until, as soon as, after, before	1) My cousin lives in Montreal. 2) The sun sets in the west. 3) We watch TV every day – <i>it’s one of our favorite pastimes.</i> 4) My train leaves at 8 pm. 5) I’ll go to bed after I watch the movie.
PRESENT CONTINUOUS	Be + verb-ing am/is/are watching	1) An ongoing action 2) A temporary activity (going on for a period of time 3) Annoying habits	1) I am writing an essay now. 2) He is taking it easy nowadays. He is living with his aunt in London now. 3) He is never listening to a word I’m saving!

The following exercise is in reference to the previous information given.

Simple Present and Present Continuous

Using the words in parentheses, complete the text below with the appropriate tenses.

1. Every Monday, Sally (drive) her kids to football practice.

2. Usually, I (work) as a secretary at ABT, but this summer I (study) French at a language school in Paris. That is why I am in Paris.

3. Shhhhhh! Be quiet! John (sleep) .

4. Don't forget to take your umbrella. It (rain) .

5. I hate living in Seattle because it (rain, always) .

6. I'm sorry I can't hear what you (say) because everybody (talk) so loudly.

7. Justin (write, now) a book about his adventures in Tibet. I hope he can find a good publisher when he is finished.

8. Jim: Do you want to come over for dinner tonight?

Denise: Oh, I'm sorry, I can't. I (go) to a movie tonight with some friends.

9. The business cards (be, normally) printed by a company in New York. Their prices (be) inexpensive, yet the quality of their work is quite good.

10. This delicious chocolate (be) made by a small chocolatier in Zurich, Switzerland.

The past simple review

The simple past (also called past simple, past indefinite or preterite) is a verb tense which is used to show that a completed action took place at a specific time in the past. The simple past is also frequently used to talk about past habits and generalizations. Read on for detailed descriptions, examples, and simple past exercises.

Simple Past Forms

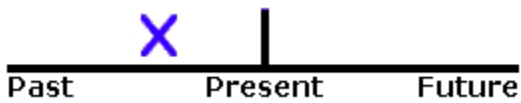
The simple past is formed using the **verb + ed**. In addition, there are many verbs with irregular past forms. Questions are made with *did* and negative forms are made with *did not*.

- Statement: You **called** Debbie.
- Question: **Did** you **call** Debbie?
- Negative: You **did not call** Debbie.

Complete List of Simple Past Forms

Simple Past Uses

USE 1 Completed Action in the Past

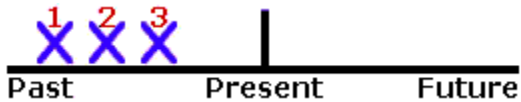


Use the simple past to express the idea that an action started and finished at a specific time in the past. Sometimes, the speaker may not actually mention the specific time, but they do have one specific time in mind.

Examples:

- I **saw** a movie yesterday.
- I **didn't see** a play yesterday.
- Last year, I **traveled** to Japan.
- Last year, I **didn't travel** to Korea.
- **Did** you **have** dinner last night?
- She **washed** her car.
- He **didn't wash** his car.

USE 2 A Series of Completed Actions



We use the simple past to list a series of completed actions in the past. These actions happen 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and so on.

Examples:

- I **finished** work, **walked** to the beach, and **found** a nice place to swim.
- He **arrived** from the airport at 8:00, **checked** into the hotel at 9:00, and **met** the others at 10:00.
- **Did** you **add** flour, **pour** in the milk, and then **add** the eggs?

USE 3 Duration in the Past



The simple past can be used with a duration which starts and stops in the past. A duration is a longer action often indicated by expressions such as: for two years, for five minutes, all day, all year, etc.

Examples:

- I **lived** in Brazil for two years.
- Shauna **studied** Japanese for five years.
- They **sat** at the beach all day.
- They **did not stay** at the party the entire time.
- We **talked** on the phone for thirty minutes.
- A: How long **did** you **wait** for them?
B: We **waited** for one hour.

USE 4 Habits in the Past



The simple past can also be used to describe a habit which stopped in the past. It can have the same meaning as "used to." To make it clear that we are talking about a habit, we often add expressions such as: always, often, usually, never, when I was a child, when I was younger, etc.

Examples:

- I **studied** French when I was a child.
- He **played** the violin.
- He **didn't play** the piano.
- **Did** you **play** a musical instrument when you were a kid?
- She **worked** at the movie theater after school.
- They never **went** to school, they always **skipped** class.

USE 5 Past Facts or Generalizations



The simple past can also be used to describe past facts or generalizations which are no longer true. As in USE 4 above, this use of the simple past is quite similar to the expression "used to."

Examples:

- She **was** shy as a child, but now she is very outgoing.
- He **didn't like** tomatoes before.
- **Did** you **live** in Texas when you **were** a kid?
- People **paid** much more to make cell phone calls in the past.

Simple Past Tips

IMPORTANT When-Clauses Happen First

Clauses are groups of words which have meaning but are often not complete sentences. Some clauses begin with the word "when" such as "when I dropped my pen..." or "when class began..." These clauses are called when-clauses, and they are very important. The examples below contain when-clauses.

Examples:

- **When I paid her one dollar**, she answered my question.
- She answered my question **when I paid her one dollar**.

When-clauses are important because they always happen first when both clauses are in the simple past. Both of the examples above mean the same thing: first, I paid her one dollar, and then, she answered my question. It is not important whether "when I paid her one dollar" is at the beginning of the sentence or at the end of the sentence. However, the example below has a different meaning. First, she answered my question, and then, I paid her one dollar.

Example:

- I paid her one dollar **when she answered my question**.

ADVERB PLACEMENT

The examples below show the placement for grammar adverbs such as: always, only, never, ever, still, just, etc.

Examples:

- You **just** called Debbie.
- Did you **just** call Debbie?

Put in the verbs in brackets into the gaps. Use Simple Past. Watch the punctuation and form sentences or questions.

1. I my maths homework yesterday. (**to do**)
2. Susan to England by plane? (**to go**)
3. They a farm two weeks ago. (**to visit**)
4. Jenny and Peggy their brother. (**not/to help**)
5. The children at home last weekend. (**not/to be**)
6. When you this wonderful skirt? (**to design**)
7. My mother into the van. (**not/to crash**)
8. The boys the mudguards of their bicycles. (**to take off**)
9. you your aunt last week? (**to phone**)
10. He milk at school. (**not/to drink**)