



Remember to watch the video on our website first!
Then read the conversation between Sophie and Lucia, a student Sophie met on her travels. Sophie is helping Lucia understand past simple irregular verbs.



**Grammar
Snacks**

Some verbs are irregular. Their past forms do not end in *-ed*.



Lucia

So how do I know which verbs are regular and which are irregular?

You have to learn them!

Learn them from the list? Oh no!



Sophie

It's not so bad. There aren't really so many verbs to learn and remember that English is much easier than many languages. The past forms don't change.

*I **took** a taxi to the airport. (take → took)*

*That was when we **spoke**. (speak → spoke)*

*One person **gave** me his last bar of chocolate. (give → gave)*



I see what you mean. *I made, you made, he made, she made, it made, we made, they made!*

Exactly! They're all the same. And the negatives are all formed with **did + not + the infinitive without to**. The question forms are very similar: **did + subject pronoun + the infinitive without to**.

*What **did you do** all day in the airport?*

***Did you have** enough food?*

***We didn't think** you would get home in time for your birthday.*



OK, you're right, that's not too bad. Are there any exceptions?

Yes the verb *to be*. The past form is *was* for *I, he, she* and *it*, but *were* for *you, we* and *they*.

*It **was** horrible not being able to phone you two!*
*There **wasn't** any food. I **was** so hungry!*
*We **were** stuck in the airport.*



So what about this verb list?

Right, here it is!

Present	Past Simple
be	was / were
break	broke
build	built
catch	caught
come	came
cut	cut
draw	drew
drive	drove
fall	fell
fight	fought
fly	flew
freeze	froze
give	gave
have	had
hold	held
keep	kept
learn	learnt
lead	led
lie	lay
make	made
meet	met
put	put
ride	rode
say	said

Present	Past Simple
begin	began
bring	brought
buy	bought
choose	chose
cost	cost
do	did
drink	drank
eat	ate
feel	felt
find	found
forget	forgot
get	got
go	went
hear	heard
hit	hit
know	knew
leave	left
let	let
lose	lost
mean	meant
pay	paid
read	read
run	ran
see	saw

Present	Past Simple
sell	sold
set	set
sing	sang
sleep	slept
spend	spent
steal	stole
take	took
tell	told
understand	understood
wear	wore
write	wrote

Present	Past Simple
send	sent
shut	shut
sit	sat
speak	spoke
stand	stood
swim	swam
teach	taught
think	thought
wake	woke
win	won



Wow! OK, so how do I learn these verbs?

There are lots of things you can try:

- Make cards to test yourself – put the infinitive on one side and the past on the other.
- Write sentences with different verbs in them. Include some negatives.
- Make up stories and record yourself. The story could just be about what you did last weekend.
- Do practice activities online. You can start by doing the ones on the LearnEnglish Teens website. Follow the link at the bottom of this page and search for 'Past simple irregular verbs'.



OK, I'm going to start learning them now!

Watch the video on our website!

