

SIMPLE PAST: COMMON PATTERNS OF IRREGULAR VERBS

No change from base form

Present	Simple past
let	let
read	read

d → t

Present	Simple past
build	built
send	sent

Various vowels → long o

Present	Simple past
choose	chose
speak	spoke

Past → -ught

Present	Simple past
buy	bought
catch	caught

Short i → a

Present	Simple past
begin	began
sing	sang

Double e → short e

Present	Simple past
feel	felt
sleep	slept

SIMPLE PAST: INTERROGATIVE FORM

	Verb to be	Other verbs
Yes / No questions	Were you in Canada last year? Yes, I was . / No, I wasn't .	Did you go to the concert last month? Yes, I did . / No, I didn't .
	Was the airline ticket expensive? Yes, it was . / No, it wasn't .	Did you have a nice trip? Yes, I did . / No, I didn't .
	Were your parents with you? Yes, they were . / No, they weren't .	Did your parents like Toronto? Yes, they did . / No, they didn't .
Wh- questions	When was your last trip to the beach? It was last summer.	When did you have breakfast? We had breakfast at 8:00 a.m.
	Where were you this morning? I was at school.	Where did you go last winter? I went to Acapulco.
	What was the movie about? It was about ghosts.	What did they do last Saturday? They went to the zoo.
	Why were you laughing? Because someone told me a joke.	Why did you buy those shoes? Because I really liked them.
	Who was your math teacher? Mrs. Rodríguez was my math teacher.	Who did you meet in Guanajuato? I met two new friends.

- For the past tense of the verb *to be*, use *was* with *I*, *he*, *she*, and *it*. Use *were* with *you*, *we*, and *they*.
- For verbs other than *to be*, use *did* for all subjects.
- When you use *did*, you have to put the verb in simple form.