PAST SIMPLE VS. PRESENT PERFECT VS. PAST PERFECT

PAST SIMPLE

WE USE IT TO TALK ABOUT:

- 1. Actions that happened and were completed in the past.
- 2. Actions that occurred at a specific time in the past.
- 3. Actions in a sequence of events in the past.

EXAMPLES



1.1 **visited**Barcelona last year.

YESTERDAY

2. She **met** her friends at 2 p.m. yesterday.

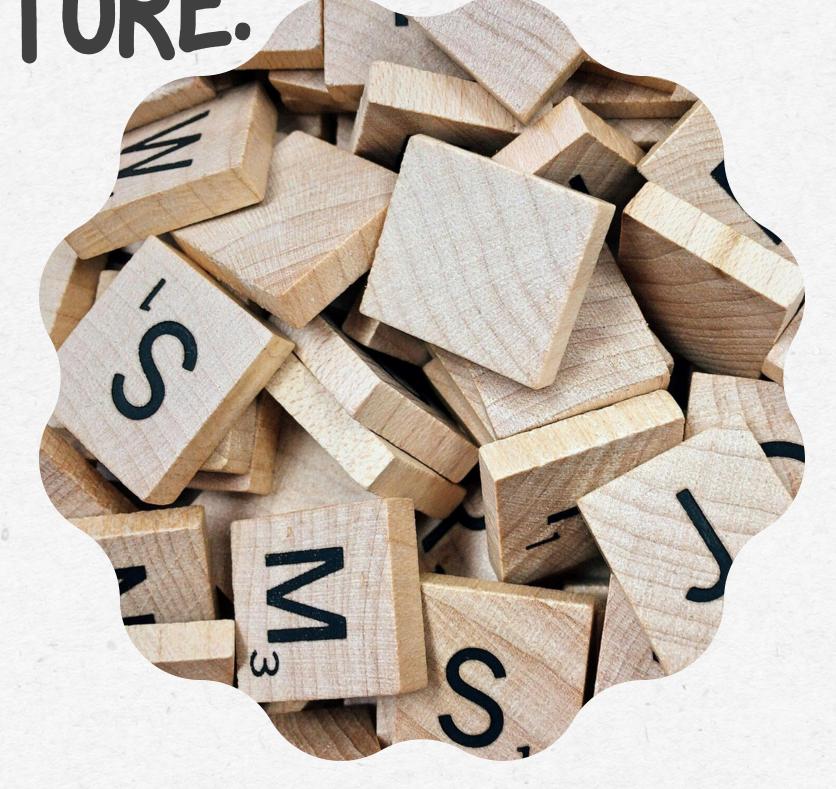
TODAY

3. He woke up, got dressed and took the bus to school.

AFFIRMATIVE STRUCTURE:

SUBJECT + V2

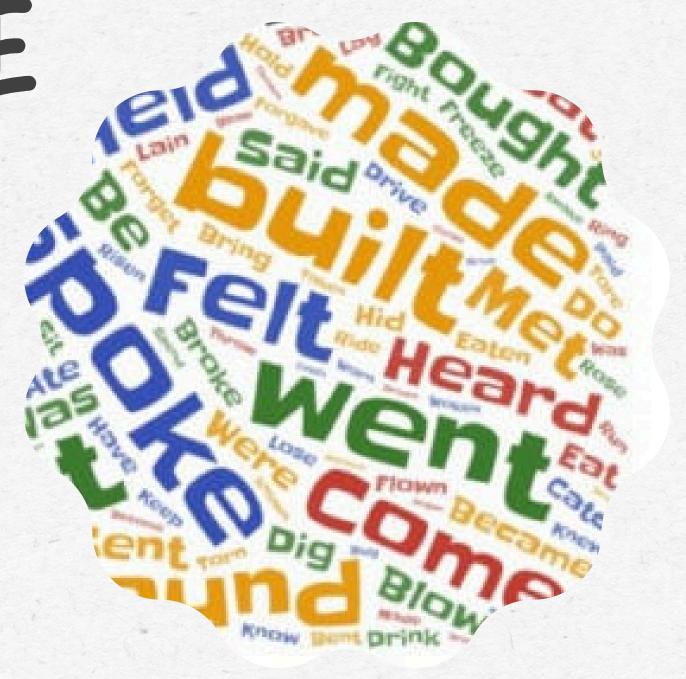
- 1. Regular verbs: ed
- 2. Irregular verbs: 2nd column
- Last night I had soup for dinner.
- When I was young, I loved dancing.



NEGATIVE STRUCTURE

SUBJECT + DID NOT (DIDN'T) + VI

- I didn't go to the cinema yesterday.
- She didn't study for the exam.



INTERROGATIVE STRUCTURE

DID + SUBJECT + V1?

- Did you watch TV yesterday?
- Did she like your present?



TIME MARKERS

LAST

Use *last* with time of date, days, weeks, months, year:

I went to London last year.

IN OR AGO

Use *in* or *ago* with date or number:

My grandma worked here 30 years ago.
She moved to Italy in 2024.

YESTERDAY

Use yesterday at the beginning or end of a sentence:

I called my grandmother yesterday. Yesterday, I spoke with my grandmother.

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE

WE USE IT TO:

- 1. Describe a past event or state that still has a connection to the present.
- 2. Talk about an action that happened at an unidentified time in the past.
- 3. Describe an action that was completed in the very recent past

EXAMPLES



My sister became a teacher. ???

Joan used a typewriter for the first time.

???

I started a novel.

TODAY

- 1. My sister **has been** a teacher for 3 years.
- 2. Joan **has used** a typewriter before.
- 3. I have just finished reading this novel.

AFFIRMATIVE STRUCTURE:

SUBJECT + HAVE/HAS + V3

- 1. Regular verbs: ed
- 2. Irregular verbs: 3rd column

I have never watched that movie before.

He has just begun his lesson. Don't disturb him!



NEGATIVE STRUCTURE

SUBJECT + HAVE NOT (HAVEN'T) / HAS NOT (HASN'T) + V3

- I haven't finished writing yet, wait!
- She hasn't been to India yet.



INTERROGATIVE STRUCTURE

HAVE/HAS + SUBJECT + V3?

- Have you ever tried sushi?
- Has she read that book?



TIME MARKERS

FOR AND SINCE

Use for with an amount of time, and we use since with the time that the action began:

I've lived here for 4 years.

I have lived here since 2021.

HOW LONG...?

we use **how long** to ask about the amount of time from the past to the present:

How long have you been living with her?

ALWAYS AND NEVER

We use *always* to show that an action began in the past and continues to the present. We use Use *never* to show that something has not occurred from the past to the present.

PAST PERFECT

WE USE IT TO:

- 1. To show the order of two past events.
- 2.To describe a past action that continued up to another point in the past.
- 3.To describe a past event that happened before a specific time in the past:

PAST PERFECT

EXAMPLES:

- 1. When the police arrived, the thief had escaped.
- 2. He had been in London for 6 years when he graduated.
- 3. By the time I got to the party, everyone had already left.

VISUAL EXAMPLE

2 hours ago

I ate lunch

1 hour ago

The meeting started.

I had eaten lunch before the meeting started.

AFFIRMATIVE STRUCTURE:

SUBJECT + HAD+ V3

- 1. Regular verbs: ed
- 2. Irregular verbs: 3rd column

She had finished the project before the deadline.



NEGATIVE STRUCTURE

SUBJECT + HAD NOT (HADN'T) + V3

• They hadn't finished eating when we arrived.



INTERROGATIVE STRUCTURE

HAD + SUBJECT + V3?

Had the parcel arrived before you called me yesterday?



TIME MARKERS

BY THE TIME

We use it to specify that an action was completed by a particular point in the past.

By the time I woke up.

Marge had already left the house.

BEFORE/AFTER

we use them to sequence events:
She had met John at the park before I arrived.

LET'S PRACTICE!