

Simple past of regular verbs (Grammar)

Description: Students in two groups complete a grid using regular verbs in the simple past tense.

Use with or after: *English Network 1 (New Edition)*, Unit 4, Step 1.

Skill: Grammar

Focus: Questions, positive and negative statements using regular verbs in the simple past tense.

Time: 10 minutes

Preparation:

- Print out all three pages of this file.
- Make enough copies of the A and B worksheets (pages 2 and 3 of this file) so that each student can have one worksheet, but not both.

Procedure:

- Divide the class into two groups, A and B. Distribute the corresponding work sheets.
- Point out that each worksheet has three columns, for questions, positive statements and negative statements. (For simplicity, the questions all begin with *Did...*, without a question word such as *When*, *What* or *Where*.)
- Each worksheet has twenty-four boxes, of which twelve are empty. Working together with someone from their own group, the students write in the missing sentences. Everyone should write, even though they are working together.
- As you monitor this, insist that they write legibly and write the complete sentences.
- When everyone has filled in all the blanks, they should stand up, find a partner from the other group, put their worksheets side by side and compare their answers. Group A has the sentences that group B was supposed to write, and visa-versa.

Please note that the eight verbs in this activity are all **regular** verbs. For the next step (Unit 4, Step 2) there will be a parallel activity using **irregular** verbs. The format of that activity is purposely identical to this one, so that the students can concentrate on the verb forms and on the sentence structures for questions, positive statements and negative statements in the simple past tense.

Group A: Work with someone from your own group and write in the twelve missing sentences. Everyone should write.

Question	Positive	Negative
Did she visit her grandmother?		She didn't visit her grandmother.
	The train arrived at three o'clock.	
Did they cook dinner on Saturday?		They didn't cook dinner on Saturday.
	He watched television on Sunday.	
Did they enjoy their holiday?		They didn't enjoy their holiday.
	He answered John's e-mail.	
Did they show him their photos?		They didn't show him their photos.
	She used to live in Chicago.	

When everyone has finished, stand up and find a new partner from group B. Put your worksheets side by side and compare the sentences.

Group B: Work with someone from your own group and write in the twelve missing sentences. Everyone should write.

Question	Positive	Negative
	She visited her grandmother.	
Did the train arrive at three o'clock?		The train didn't arrive at three o'clock.
	They cooked dinner on Saturday.	
Did he watch television on Sunday?		He didn't watch television on Sunday.
	They enjoyed their holiday.	
Did he answer John's e-mail?		He didn't answer John's e-mail.
	They showed him their photos.	
Did she use to live in Chicago?		She didn't use to live in Chicago.

When everyone has finished, stand up and find a new partner from group A. Put your worksheets side by side and compare the sentences.