

## Simple past of irregular verbs (Grammar)

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

**Use with or after:** *English Network 1 (New Edition)*, Unit 4, Step 2.

**Skill:** Grammar

**Focus:** Questions, positive and negative statements using irregular 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 workshee 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 **irregular** verbs. For the previous step (Unit 4, Step 1) there is a parallel activity using **regular** 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
	They left the house at eight o'clock.	
Did she speak to the president?		She didn't speak to the president.
	She went to the cinema yesterday.	
Did they bring the presents?		They didn't bring the presents.
	They drove to work yesterday.	
Did he know the answer?		He didn't know the answer.
	They swam in the sea.	
Did she forget the tickets?		She didn't forget the tickets.

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
Did they leave the house at eight o'clock?		They didn't leave the house at eight o'clock.
	She spoke to the president.	
Did she go to the cinema yesterday?		She didn't go to the cinema yesterday.
	They brought the presents.	
Did they drive to work yesterday?		They didn't drive to work yesterday.
	He knew the answer.	
Did they swim in the sea?		They didn't swim in the sea.
	She forgot the tickets.	

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