

Simple Past: Questions and Negative Statements

The simple past tense is used to describe past situations or events. It is called "simple" (past) to differ it from other past tense forms that you will study in future contents of this course, which do not describe the event in the past itself, but other aspects of the past. Therefore, simple past usually involves time expressions like *yesterday, three months ago, in 1999*, etc., to refer to the event.

To form *simple past affirmative sentences* you need to use verbs in past tense (regular and irregular):

 + (Verb in Past Tense) + complement

To form *simple past negative sentences* you need the auxiliary **did** in negative form (**didn't**) and the verb in base form (not in past tense):

 + (**didn't**) + (verb in base form) + complement

To form *simple past interrogative sentences* you need to add before the subject the auxiliary **did**, and the verb goes in base form:

(Wh-) + **Did** +  + (verb in base form) + (complement) + ?