The simple past expresses an action in the past taking place once, never, several times. It can also be used for actions taking place one after another or in the middle of another action.

<table>
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<th>Form of Simple Past</th>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Negative</th>
<th>Question</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I spoke.</td>
<td>I did not speak.</td>
<td>Did I speak?</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

For irregular verbs, use the past form. For regular verbs, just add “ed”.

Exceptions in Spelling when Adding ‘ed’

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Exceptions in spelling when adding ed</th>
<th>Example</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>after a final e only add d</td>
<td>love – loved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>final consonant after a short, stressed vowel or l as final consonant after a vowel is doubled</td>
<td>admit – admitted travel – travelled</td>
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<tr>
<td>final y after a consonant becomes i</td>
<td>hurry – hurried</td>
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**Exercise 1**: CHANGE THE VERB INTO THE CORRECT FORM:

1. Dan ____________ (leave) very early today.

2. Sam and Sue ____________ (buy) a new house last month.

3. I ____________ (visit) Germany the previous week.

4. You ____________ (play) very well.

5. They ____________ (find) this book on their trip to Italy.

6. I ____________ (bake) this cake by myself.

7. We ____________ (open) the store in 1987.
8. The rain finally ___________________ (stop), and we ______________ (go) home.

9. She ____________________ (plan) to come, but she ___________ (have) some problems.

10. Kate __________ (have) a big house, but she ___________ (sell) it.

11. Rose ___________ (be) very thin.

12. You __________ (be) at work yesterday morning.

13. We ___________________ (think) New York was in England!

14. They ___________________ (bring) this from their trip.

15. She always ________________ (dance) in the summer.

**Exercise 2:** Write the Simple Past of the verbs in brackets. Use affirmative, negative and interrogative statements.

1.- I __________ my math homework yesterday. (to do)

2.- Susan ___________ to England by plane? (to go)

3.- They _________________ a farm two weeks ago. (to visit)

4.- Jenny and Peggy ______________________ their brother. (not/to help)

5.- The children ___________________ at home last weekend. (not/to be)

6.- When ______ you _________________ this wonderful skirt? (to design)

7.- My mother ___________________ into the van. (not/to crash)

8.- The boys __________________ the mudguards of their bicycles. (to take off)

9.- ______ you __________________ your aunt last week? (to phone)

10.- He __________________________ milk at school. (not/to drink)

11.- She ___________ shy as a child, but now she is very outgoing. (to be)

12.- He __________________________ tomatoes before. (not / to like)

13.- ______ you ___________ in Texas when you ___________ a kid? (to live / to be)
Exercise 3: WRITE THE CORRECT FORM OF THE VERB IN PARENTHESES IN THE SIMPLE PAST TENSE.

When Abby (be) ______(1) seven years old, she (do, not, like) ______  ______  ______(2) piano lessons. She (do, not, like) ______  ______  ______(3) to practice, and sometimes she even (cry) ______(4) when it (be) ______(5) time to practice. Finally, she (stop) ______(6) taking lessons. Some of Abby's friends (do, not, quit) ______  ______  ______(7) their lessons. They (continue)  ______(8) to play. After much practice, they (learn) ______(9) to play very well. About ten years (pass) ______(10) before Abby (become)  ______(11) interested in music or the piano again. After she (graduate)  ______(12) from high school, Abby (decide)  ______(13) that she (want)  ______(14) to study music in college. She (call)  ______(15) the lady who (teach)  ______(16) her when she (be) ______(17) a little girl. The lady (say) ______(18) she would teach Abby again. The lady (need) ______(19) someone to help her daughter with homework. Abby (say) ______(20) she would help with homework in exchange for lessons. Because of this, the piano lessons (cost) ______(21) her nothing! She (work) ______(22) very hard to catch up. Now she is making good progress. Soon she will go to college, majoring in music.

SCORE: ____________/50

Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time. Thomas A. Edison