

## Grammar / the simple past



A very helpful dog.

*Hi! It is me again, Winston. Today, I want to tell you how I sometimes help Mr Goodwill. Normally, my human<sup>1</sup> is a very clever man, but sometimes he needs my help. Let me tell you about last Monday: First, my human set his alarm clock to 6 o'clock. That is too early. So, I helped him and changed the time on the alarm clock and we slept until 9 o'clock. I liked it a lot, but he didn't like it and was in a hurry. That is why my human didn't make me any breakfast, so I had to make my own breakfast. I jumped onto the table and knocked over some bowls and plates. My human grumbled<sup>2</sup> and didn't laugh about it, but I was happy – cheesecake and strawberries for breakfast – what a start into a new day! My human was in a bad mood. So, I wanted to cheer him up<sup>3</sup> and play with him. I took his car keys and ran down the street and I think my human really liked it, because he came out and started to play with me. He shouted: "Winston, where are you?", "Where are my keys?" I hid behind a tree – woof woof! Then he looked around in the garden and I quickly went inside again. We ran around the house for 10 minutes until I became tired and until my human was all red in his face, probably<sup>4</sup> because he was happy again. I am a very helpful dog!*

### Now you:

Please read the text above. Find the simple past forms in the text and match them with their infinitives. (= Schau' dir die Infinitivformen an und finde die passenden simple past - Formen im Text. Trage sie in die Tabelle ein.)

infinitive	simple past	infinitive	simple past
to help	helped	to set	set
to change		to sleep	
to like		to be	
to jump		to have	
to knock		to take	
to grumble		to run	
to want		to come	
to start		to hide	
to shout		to go	
to look		to become	

<sup>1</sup> my human = mein Mensch

<sup>2</sup> (to) grumble = meckern, grummeln

<sup>3</sup> (to) cheer sb. up = jmd. aufheitern

<sup>4</sup> probably = wahrscheinlich

❶ Hier im Text hast du jetzt schon einige Verbformen im **simple past** entdeckt!  
Well done ☺!

## Das SIMPLE PAST

Mit dem **SIMPLE PAST** (= einfache Vergangenheit) kannst du über Vergangenes berichten, z.B. wenn Du eine Geschichte erzählen möchtest oder über etwas berichten möchtest, das du in der Vergangenheit erlebt hast.

Mit Zeitangaben wie: **last week, yesterday, three years ago** oder auch nur **one minute ago** kannst du sagen, **wann** etwas geschehen ist oder **wann** jemand etwas getan hat.

### Regelmäßige Verben:

- Es gibt **regelmäßige** Verbformen (z.B. **changed, jumped**) – diese findest du in der obigen Tabelle auf der linken Seite.  
Regelmäßige Formen werden gebildet, indem du die **Endung -ed** an den Infinitiv (= Grundform des Verbs) anhängst.

Achtung, es gibt ein paar **Besonderheiten**:

- to change – **change~~d~~** → das stumme -e fällt weg (nicht **change~~ed~~**)
- ein -y nach einem Konsonant wird zu -ied: **to hurry – hurried**
- nach einem einzelnen, **betonten Vokal** wird der Konsonant verdoppelt:  
**to plan – planned, to stop – stopped**
- nach **-d** und **-t** wird die Endung -ed [ɪd] ausgesprochen

### Unregelmäßige Verben:

- Einige der **unregelmäßigen** Verbformen (z.B. sleep – **slept**, go – **went** / have – **had**) stehen in der rechten Tabellenhälfte.
- Jedes unregelmäßige Verb hat eine eigene Form im *simple past*. Diese Formen musst du auswendig lernen. Die Liste der gängigsten unregelmäßigen Verben findest du in deinem Englischbuch oder in einem Lexikon.

### ⌚ Verneinte Aussagesätze

Im *simple past* kannst du natürlich auch verneinte Aussagen machen, dazu benutzt du für alle Personen (I, you, he, she, it, we, you, they) nur eine Form: **didn't**

⌚ **He didn't like it.**

⌚ **He didn't make me any breakfast.**

⌚ **He didn't laugh.**

- Sätze im *simple past* werden mit **didn't + infinitive** verneint.

## EXERCISES:

- 1. Regular forms:** Look at the verbs in the box and put the past forms in the right group. (= Bilde regelmäßige simple past - Formen und ordne sie in die richtige Spalte ein.)

need – copy – live – plan – shop – hurry – dance – love – like – want – taste – drop			
stummes -e	doppelte Konsonanten	-y wird zu -ied	Achte auf die Aussprache!
(to) arrive – <b>arrived</b>	(to) stop – <b>stopped</b>	(to) try – <b>tried</b>	(to) shout – <b>shouted</b>



Nach **t** und **d** wird die **-ed** Endung **[ -id ] ausgesprochen**

- 2. Irregular forms:** Find 10 irregular simple past forms in the grid and match them with their infinitives. (= Finde 10 unregelmäßige Vergangenheitsformen und ordne sie ihren Infinitivformen zu.)

to go - **went**

to win - \_\_\_\_\_

to have - \_\_\_\_\_

to eat - \_\_\_\_\_

to come - \_\_\_\_\_

to run - \_\_\_\_\_

to see - \_\_\_\_\_

to take - \_\_\_\_\_

to be - \_\_\_\_\_

to sleep - \_\_\_\_\_

W	E	N	T	P	R	X
O	D	W	F	S	A	W
N	C	A	M	E	N	D
Q	A	S	K	L	W	S
H	T	K	T	O	O	K
A	E	Z	M	V	C	S
D	X	S	L	E	P	T

- 3. Mixed forms:** please fill the gaps with the correct simple past forms. (= Setze die passende simple past - Form ein und achte darauf, ob es regelmäßige oder unregelmäßige Verben sind. Manchmal musst du die Sätze verneinen).

### Winston's diary

Yesterday was (be) a great day. Mr Goodwill and I \_\_\_\_\_ (sleep) very long. Then I \_\_\_\_\_ (make) my own breakfast – cheesecake and dog food – yummy! Mr Goodwill \_\_\_\_\_ (not + like) my breakfast. He \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) muesli. Then we \_\_\_\_\_ (play) hide and seek<sup>5</sup> with Mr Goodwill's car keys. I love that game. Mr Goodwill \_\_\_\_\_ (not + find) it funny yesterday. He \_\_\_\_\_ (be) angry with me and \_\_\_\_\_ (shout): "Winston, where are my keys? I have to go to school!" So, I \_\_\_\_\_ (give) his keys back because I love school. I \_\_\_\_\_ (jump) up and down happily and \_\_\_\_\_ (bark) loudly. Mr Goodwill \_\_\_\_\_ (laugh) and \_\_\_\_\_ (start) the car. Meanwhile<sup>6</sup> I \_\_\_\_\_ (take) his favourite pen, so we can play hide and seek at school again – I know he loves that game. Woof, woof!

<sup>5</sup> to play hide and seek = Verstecken spielen

<sup>6</sup> meanwhile = währenddessen