COMPLEJO EDUCATIVO CATÓLICO
MANO AMIGA SAN ANTONIO

CURSO DE INDUCCIÓN
PRESENT CONTINOUS

El Past Simple (o Simple Past) es la forma más común para hablar del pasado en inglés y equivale en español tanto al pretérito indefinido como al pretérito imperfecto. Se utiliza para expresar acciones, ideas o estados que comenzaron y concluyeron por completo en un tiempo anterior al presente, sin importar si ocurrieron hace cinco minutos o hace varios siglos. Para dominarlo en el nivel A2 es indispensable distinguir entre los verbos regulares (que añaden -d o ed), los verbos irregulares (que modifican su raíz), el comportamiento del verbo to be (was / were) y el uso del auxiliar did en negaciones y preguntas.

Cuándo Usar el Past Simple.

El Past Simple se aplica cuando el hablante sitúa una acción como un hecho consumado que ya no existe ni sucede en el presente. Este tiempo verbal cumple cinco funciones comunicativas esenciales:

- Acciones concretas que comenzaron y acabaron en el pasado: relatan eventos terminados en un momento específico, ya sea reciente o lejano. (Ej. Tom stayed at home last night. / I didn't go to the party yesterday. / A year ago, I ate in that restaurant.)
- Serie de acciones consecutivas en el pasado: narran varios eventos concluidos que ocurrieron uno tras otro. (Ej. I received the good news and immediately called my husband. / He studied for an hour in the morning and worked all afternoon.)
- Acciones repetidas o habituales en el pasado: describen costumbres pasadas, equivalentes al pretérito imperfecto español, a menudo con adverbios de frecuencia como always, often o sometimes. (Ej. We always traveled to Cancun when we were young. / He walked 5 kilometers every day to work.)
- Narraciones o acciones de períodos prolongados en el pasado: expresan situaciones que duraron un tiempo extenso pero que ya finalizaron. (Ej. I worked for many years in a museum. / She didn't eat meat for years.)
- Generalidades, estados o hechos del pasado: comunican verdades históricas o situaciones pasadas generales. (Ej. The Aztec lived in Mexico. / When you were a child, you liked apples. / I played the guitar when I was a child.)

Marcadores temporales y uso de ago: El Past Simple suele acompañarse de expresiones de tiempo definido (yesterday, last night, last Saturday, last week, last year, this morning, in 1970, when I was a child) o tiempo indeterminado (the other day, ages ago, a long time ago). El término ago expresa distancia temporal y se coloca siempre después del período de tiempo (ej. a week ago, three years ago, a minute ago). Además, el pasado de can (could) se emplea en ocasiones para formular preguntas corteses en el presente (Could you close the door, please?).

Verbos Regulares: Reglas Ortográficas y Pronunciación de -ed

Para conjugar un verbo regular en Past Simple afirmativo, la forma es idéntica para todos los pronombres personales (I, you, he, she, it, we, they): basta con añadir la terminación -ed al infinitivo, respetando las excepciones ortográficas resumidas a continuación.

Reglas Ortográficas para Formar el Pasado Regular

La terminación escrita (-d, -ed o -ied) depende de las últimas letras de la raíz del verbo en infinitivo:

Regla Ortográfica	Condición del Verbo	Terminación	Ejemplos
Regla general	Mayoría de verbos regulares sin terminación especial	Se añade -ed	want → wanted | learn → learned | walk → walked | jump → jumped
Terminados en -e	El infinitivo ya termina en la vocal -e	Solo se añade -d	change → changed | believe → believed | close → closed
Vocal + -y	El verbo termina en -y precedida por una vocal	Se mantiene la -y y se añade -ed	play → played | stay → stayed
Consonante + -y	El verbo termina en -y precedida por una consonante	Se cambia -y por -i + -ed (-ied)	study → studied | try → tried | cry → cried
Vocal corta + consonante	Termina en vocal corta + consonante (excepto -y o -w)	Se duplica la consonante final + -ed	stop → stopped | commit → committed | skip → skipped

Pronunciación de la Terminación -ed (Tres Grupos Fonéticos)

Aunque la escritura regular utiliza -d o -ed, en la expresión oral la letra e suele ser muda y el sufijo se articula en tres sonidos distintos según el sonido final del verbo base:

Grupo Fonético	Sonido Final del Verbo Base	Pronunciación de -ed	Ejemplos
Grupo 1: /id/	Verbos terminados en sonido -t / -te o -d / -de	Se pronuncia la sílaba /id/ (como en hid)	started /star-tid/, visited /vih-sih-tid/, waited /weitid/, ended /endid/, decided /dee-siy-did/
Grupo 2: /t/	Consonantes sordas sin vibración: p, k, ch, sh, f, s, h	Suena como una /t/ seca al final	stopped /stopt/, liked /laikt/, parked /parkt/, looked /lukt/, kissed /kisst/
Grupo 3: /d/	Consonantes sonoras (con vibración: b, g, l, m, n, v, z) o vocal	Suena únicamente como una /d/ suave	yelled /jeld/, cleaned /klind/, hugged /hugd/, cried /crayd/, roared /rord/

Estructura de las Oraciones: Afirmativa, Negativa y Preguntas.

Al construir oraciones en Past Simple debemos separar dos comportamientos gramaticales: los verbos comunes (regulares e irregulares, que utilizan el auxiliar did / didn't para negar y preguntar) y el verbo to be (was / were, que nunca utiliza el auxiliar did).

Auxiliar did

En oraciones negativas e interrogativas, el único elemento que se conjuga en pasado es el auxiliar did (pasado de do); el verbo principal permanece obligatoriamente en su forma infinitiva (sin to), tanto si es regular como irregular.

Tipo de Oración	Fórmula Estructural	Ejemplos (Regulares e Irregulares)
Afirmativa (Regular)	Sujeto + verbo en pasado (-d / -ed / -ied) + complemento	I wanted to dance. | They learned English. | We believed him.
Afirmativa (Irregular)	Sujeto + verbo en forma irregular de pasado + complemento	I bought a blue car. | She went to the park. | He came to the party.
Negativa	Sujeto + did not (didn't) + verbo en infinitivo (sin to)	I didn't want to dance. | She did not go to the park. | I didn't buy a blue car.
Pregunta (Sí / No)	Did + sujeto + verbo en infinitivo (sin to) + complemento?	Did you want to dance? | Did she go to the park? | Did you buy a blue car?
Pregunta Negativa	Didn't / Did not + sujeto + verbo en infinitivo?	Didn't you play? | Didn't they arrive on time?

El Verbo To Be en Pasado (Was / Were)

El verbo to be (ser o estar) es irregular y posee dos formas en pasado según el sujeto: was (para I, he, she, it) y were (para you, we, they). A diferencia de los demás verbos, forma sus negaciones añadiendo not (wasn't / weren't) y sus preguntas invirtiendo el orden con el sujeto, sin emplear did.

Tipo de Oración (To Be)	Fórmula Estructural	Ejemplos
Afirmativa	Sujeto + was / were + complemento	She was a doctor. | The keys were in the drawer. | I was in Japan last year.
Negativa	Sujeto + was not (wasn't) / were not (weren't) + complemento	She wasn't a doctor. | The keys weren't in the drawer. | They weren't in Rio last summer.
Interrogativa	Was / Were + sujeto + complemento?	Was she a doctor? | Were the keys in the drawer? | Were they in Iceland last January?

Verbos irregulares.

Se denominan así porque cambian su raíz total o parcialmente en el Past Simple (sin agregar -d ni -ed) y no siguen una regla fija, por lo que requieren memorización y práctica constante. Recuerda que su forma irregular únicamente aparece en oraciones afirmativas; en negativas e interrogativas, el auxiliar did devuelve el verbo a su forma base.

Lista de verbos

Infinitivo	Past Simple	Tipo	Traducción al Español	Ejemplo en Past Simple
be	was / were	Irregular	ser / estar	She was a doctor. / The keys were in the drawer.
become	became	Irregular	volverse / convertirse en	He became a great teacher last year.
begin	began	Irregular	empezar / comenzar	The class began at eight o'clock.
believe	believed	Regular (-d)	creer	We believed him yesterday.
break	broke	Irregular	romper	He broke his phone last week.
buy	bought	Irregular	comprar	I bought a blue car.
change	changed	Regular (-d)	cambiar	They changed the schedule this morning.
close	closed	Regular (-d)	cerrar	She closed the store yesterday.
come	came	Irregular	venir	He came to the party last night.
do	did	Irregular	hacer	We did our homework last night.
drink	drank	Irregular	beber / tomar	She drank coffee before work.
drive	drove	Irregular	manejar / conducir	My father drove to work yesterday.
eat	ate	Irregular	comer	A year ago, I ate in that restaurant.
forget	forgot	Irregular	olvidar	I forgot my keys at home.
get	got	Irregular	conseguir / obtener	She got a new job last month.
give	gave	Irregular	dar	We gave her a doll for her birthday.
go	went	Irregular	ir	I went to the store. / She went to the park.
have	had	Irregular	tener	She had a headache yesterday.

hear	heard	Irregular	oír / escuchar	They heard that song at the concert.
know	knew	Irregular	saber / conocer	I knew the answer to the question.
learn	learned / learnt	Reg. / Irreg.	aprender	They learned English at school.
make	made	Irregular	hacer / fabricar	She made dinner for the family.
pay	paid	Irregular	pagar	He paid for the tickets yesterday.
play	played	Regular (-ed)	jugar / tocar (instrumento)	She played like a pro in the final match.
run	ran	Irregular	correr	We ran in the park yesterday morning.
say	said	Irregular	decir	He said hello to everyone.
sell	sold	Irregular	vender	They sold their old house two years ago.
sleep	slept	Irregular	dormir	I slept eight hours last night.
speak	spoke	Irregular	hablar	She spoke with the teacher after class.
stop	stopped	Regular (-pped)	detener(se) / parar	You stopped just in time.
study	studied	Regular (-ied)	estudiar	I studied all night for the last test.
take	took	Irregular	tomar / agarrar	They took the bus to work.
walk	walked	Regular (-ed)	caminar	Yesterday we walked to the park.
want	wanted	Regular (-ed)	querer	I wanted to dance at the party.
win	won	Irregular	ganar	Our team won the game on Saturday.
write	wrote	Irregular	escribir	She wrote an email an hour ago.