

Republic Democratic Popular Of Algeria

Ministry Of Transport

E T F I M Mostaganem

Long Term Training

Section : Engine Room Seafarers

Module: English

Teacher: Mrs Douar Rym

Maritime English Grammar

Lesson N05



Lesson Five:

The Simple Past Tense

With verbs

We use the past tense to talk about:

- something that happened **once in the past**:
*I **met** my wife in 1983.*
*We **went** to Spain for our holidays.*
*They **got** home very late last night.*
- something that happened **several times in the past**:
*When I was a boy, I **walked** a mile to school every day.*
*We **swam** a lot while we were on holiday.*
*They always **enjoyed** visiting their friends.*
- something that was **true for some time in the past**:
*I **lived** abroad for ten years.*
*He **enjoyed** being a student.*
*She **played** a lot of tennis when she was younger.*
- we often use **expressions with ago** with the past simple:
*I **met** my wife **a long time ago**.*

Past simple questions and negatives

We use **did** to make questions with the past simple:

***Did** she **play** tennis when she was younger?*

***Did** you **live** abroad?*

*When **did** you **meet** your wife?*

*Where **did** you **go** for your holidays?*

But questions with *who* often don't use *did*:

***Who discovered** penicillin?*

***Who wrote** Don Quixote?*

We use **didn't** (**did not**) to make negatives with the past simple:

*They **didn't go** to Spain this year.*

*We **didn't get** home until very late last night.*

*I **didn't see** you yesterday.*

1/Regular Verbs in the Simple Past:

General Rules:

1. For regular verbs that end with a **silent e**, like **note**, **live** and **celebrate** we only need to add 'd'.
2. For regular verbs that end with **vowel + y**, like **play**, **annoy** and **pray** we add 'ed'.
3. For regular verbs that end with **consonant + y**, like **study**, **marry** and **carry**, we change the 'y' to an 'i', and add 'ed'.
4. For regular verbs that end with a **consonant after a stressed vowel**, like **stir**, **stop** and **hug** we double the last letter and add 'ed'.
5. For all other regular verbs, we simply add 'ed'.

Past Simple Forms

Regular verbs

Positive Form	Negative Form	Question Form
• I arrived .	• I didn't arrive on time.	• Did I arrive?
• He arrived .	• He didn't arrive .	• Did he arrive?
• She arrived .	• She didn't arrive .	• Did she arrive?
• It arrived .	• It didn't arrive .	• Did it arrive?
• You arrived .	• You didn't arrive .	• Did you arrive?
• We arrived .	• We didn't arrive .	• Did we arrive?
• They arrived .	• They didn't arrive .	• Did they arrive?

2/Irregular Verbs:

What's an irregular verb? Irregular verbs are known as strong verbs because their past participle and past simple spelling patterns are exactly the same. Where regular verbs typically include a -d or -ed when in past participle or past simple forms, verbs that are irregular do not.

The list of irregular verbs below shows the 25 that are most commonly used:

Present	Past	Past Participle	Present	Past	Past Participle
be	were	been	know	knew	known
become	became	become	leave	left	left
begin	began	begun	let	let	let
come	came	come	make	made	made
do	did	done	mean	meant	meant
feel	felt	felt	put	put	put
find	found	found	say	said	said
get	got	got / gotten	see	saw	seen
give	gave	given	show	showed	shown
go	went	gone	take	took	taken
have	had	had	tell	told	told
hear	heard	heard	think	thought	thought
keep	kept	kept			

*Other Examples:

1-I worked on the ship for two years.

2-The Chinese ship didn't receive the message.

3-Did they send the signal on time?

4-The Vessel left the dry dock two days ago.

*Practice :

A-Put the sentences in the past tense:

1-The Chief Mate (switch)..... on the navigation lights.

2-The Boatswain (check)..... the life jacket before the drill.

3-This company (has).....three tankers and a general cargo carrier.

4-(do).....the vessel have a heavy list?

B-Put the sentences of the past into negative interrogative forms:

1-Last year I went to England on holiday.

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2-They lived in Paris two years ago.

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3-We found the treasure

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4-He spoke Spanish

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5-Olivia became an actress.

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