

Simple Past

FINISHED

I traveled to Europe in 2019. ♦ *completed action*

STORY

He sat down and ordered a coffee. ♦ *sequence of events*

REGULAR & IRREGULAR VERBS

past forms

1 REGULAR • + ED

+ ed

work → *worked*
play → *played*
cook → *cooked*

2 IRREGULAR • SAME

no change

cut → *cut*
put → *put*
hit → *hit*

3 IRREGULAR • PATTERN

vowel change

write → *wrote*
drive → *drove*
ride → *rode*

4 IRREGULAR • PATTERN

vowel change

swim → *swam*
begin → *began*
sing → *sang*

IRREGULAR no rule, you must memorize them!

AFFIRMATIVE • QUESTION • NEGATIVE

auxiliary main verb

Affirmative

He drank water.

She waited for me.

The kids played here.

Question

Did he drink water?

Did she wait for me?

Did the kids play here?

Negative

He didn't drink water.

She didn't wait for me.

The kids didn't play here.

NOTE In sentences with verb to be, the verb to be itself is the auxiliary (no need for did):
I was tired. → Was I tired? → I wasn't tired.

ADVERBS USED WITH SIMPLE PAST

yesterday

last night

last month

in 2006

2 years ago

when...

CONTRACTIONS did not = didn't ♦ was not = wasn't ♦ were not = weren't