Past Simple — Worksheet

30 exercises · Level A1–A2 · Answer key on the last page Free for classroom use

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Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Choose the correct option (a–d) for each gap or question. Check yourself with the answer key on the last page.

1. We _____ football in the park yesterday afternoon.
   a) played b) plaied c) play d) playing

2. The bus _____ suddenly, and everyone fell forward.
   a) stoped b) stops c) stopped d) stopping

3. She _____ hard for her exams last month.
   a) studyed b) studies c) study d) studied

4. My grandparents _____ to Australia in 1975.
   a) moveed b) moved c) move d) have moved

5. I _____ a warm coat at the market last Saturday.
   a) buyed b) buy c) buying d) bought

6. Every day of our trip to Greece last summer, we _____ to the beach.
   a) goed b) go c) went d) gone

7. He _____ a long email to his manager an hour ago.
   a) writed b) wrote c) written d) writes

8. The tickets _____ very expensive, so we didn't buy them.
   a) was b) be c) been d) were

9. I _____ the answer, so I asked my teacher.
   a) didn't knew b) not knew c) didn't know d) don't knew

10. _____ you _____ the football match last night?
    a) Did … watched b) Did … watch c) Do … watch d) Were … watch

11. My parents met each other twenty years _____.
    a) ago b) since c) for d) last

12. We visited Rome for the first time _____ 2018.
    a) on b) at c) since d) in

13. _____ did you start learning English?
    a) How long b) Since when c) When d) How much

14. Where _____ you yesterday evening? I called you twice.
    a) was b) did c) have d) were

15. First she _____ the door, and then she turned on the light.

a) opened b) opens c) has opened d) was open

16. When I was a child, I _____ in a small village by the sea.

a) live b) lived c) have lived d) was live

17. The film _____ at eight and finished at half past ten.

a) starts b) has started c) was start d) started

18. She _____ her keys on the bus and had to call a locksmith.

a) left b) leaved c) leaves d) has left

19. We _____ tired after the long walk, so we went to bed early.

a) was b) are c) did d) were

20. Why _____ you leave the party so early?

a) were b) did c) have d) was

21. These days he usually _____ to work, but yesterday he took the bus.

a) walks b) walked c) walk d) is walking

22. I _____ my homework an hour ago, so now I'm free.

a) have finished b) finished c) finish d) am finishing

23. _____ you _____ the Louvre when you were in Paris?

a) Have … visited b) Did … visited c) Did … visit d) Do … visit

24. They _____ married in 2015 and moved to Edinburgh a year later.

a) got b) get c) have got d) getted

25. It _____ all day yesterday, so we stayed at home.

a) rains b) has rained c) rained d) was rain

26. Which sentence is correct?

a) I didn't went to school yesterday.
b) I don't went to school yesterday.
c) I didn't go to school yesterday.
d) I not went to school yesterday.

27. Which question is correct?

a) Did she called you last night?
b) Did she call you last night?
c) Does she called you last night?
d) Called she you last night?

28. Which sentence is correct?

a) We have visited Prague in 2018.
b) We visit Prague in 2018.
c) We were visit Prague in 2018.
d) We visited Prague in 2018.

29. Which sentence is correct?

a) She was very happy when she heard the news.
b) She were very happy when she heard the news.
c) She was very happy when she hear the news.
d) She is very happy when she heard the news.

30. Which sentence is correct?

a) I buyed a new phone last week.
b) I bought a new phone last week.
c) I have bought a new phone last week.
d) I did bought a new phone last week.

Answer Key

Past Simple · Explanations are shortened — the full interactive version is at gramvoy.com/exercises/past-simple/

1. a) played

Yesterday afternoon is a finished time, so the past simple.

2. c) stopped

Stop ends in one vowel + one consonant, so the consonant doubles before -ed: stopped.

3. d) studied

A verb ending in consonant + y changes y to i before -ed: study → studied, try → tried.

4. b) moved

In 1975 is a finished time, so the past simple.

5. d) bought

Buy is irregular: buy – bought – bought.

6. c) went

Go is irregular: go – went – gone.

7. b) wrote

Write is irregular: write – wrote – written.

8. d) were

The tickets is plural, so the past of be is were.

9. c) didn't know

Negatives in the past simple use didn't + the base form for every person: didn't know.

10. b) Did … watch

Past simple questions use Did + subject + base form: Did you watch…?

11. a) ago

Ago comes after a length of time and counts back from now: twenty years ago.

12. d) in

Years take in: in 2018, in the 1990s.

13. c) When

When asks for the time of a finished event, so it fits the past simple: When did you start?

14. d) were

You always takes were, even for one person: Where were you?

15. a) opened

One action after another in a finished story: she opened the door, and then she turned on the light.

16. b) lived

When I was a child names a finished period, so the past simple lived.

17. d) started

The second verb, finished, shows a past event, so the first one is past too: started.

18. a) left

Leave is irregular: leave – left – left.

19. d) were

We takes were, the plural past of be.

20. b) did

Why + did + subject + base form: Why did you leave?

21. a) walks

These days … usually describes a present habit, so the present simple walks.

22. b) finished

An hour ago is a finished time, so the past simple finished — even though the result (now I'm free) is in the present.

23. c) Did … visit

When you were in Paris is a finished time, so the past simple: Did you visit…?

24. a) got

Get married is a fixed phrase, and get is irregular: get – got.

25. c) rained

All day yesterday is a finished time, so the past simple rained.

26. c) I didn't go to school yesterday.

Negatives use didn't + the base form: I didn't go.

27. b) Did she call you last night?

Questions use Did + subject + base form: Did she call you…?

28. d) We visited Prague in 2018.

In 2018 is a finished time, so only the past simple works: We visited Prague in 2018.

29. a) She was very happy when she heard the news.

She takes was, and both events are in the past: She was very happy when she heard the news.

30. b) I bought a new phone last week.

Buy is irregular — bought, not buyed.