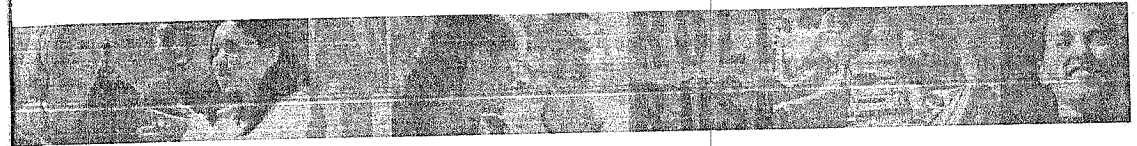


Elementary Language Practice *with key*



Michael Vince
with Kevin McNicholas

*English Grammar and
Vocabulary*


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Illustrated by:
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Ruth Galloway pp 11, 13, 15, 31, 47, 58, 59, 61, 102, 115;
Julian Mosedale pp 46, 86, 94, 100, 185, 203, 208, 237, 241, 247;
Val Saunders pp 214, 216, 218, 222, 226, 232, 236, 239, 240;
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Contents

Grammar		
Grammar 1	Present simple of <i>be</i>	8
Grammar 2	Present simple: affirmative; Frequency adverbs	10
Grammar 3	Present simple: negative and questions	12
Grammar 4	Present continuous: affirmative	14
Grammar 5	Present continuous: negative and questions	16
Grammar 6	Present continuous and present simple	18
Grammar 7	CONSOLIDATION 1	20
Grammar 8	Past simple: regular affirmative	22
Grammar 9	Past simple: regular negative and questions	24
Grammar 10	Past simple: irregular affirmative	26
Grammar 11	Past simple: irregular negative and questions	28
Grammar 12	Past simple of <i>be</i>	30
Grammar 13	Past continuous: affirmative, negative and questions	32
Grammar 14	CONSOLIDATION 2	34
Grammar 15	Past continuous and past simple	36
Grammar 16	Past habits: <i>used to</i>	38
Grammar 17	Present perfect: affirmative	42
Grammar 18	Present perfect: negative and questions	44
Grammar 19	Present perfect and past simple	46
Grammar 20	Present perfect and past simple: time expressions	48
Grammar 21	CONSOLIDATION 3	50

Grammar 22	Future plans and predictions	52
Grammar 23	Predictions: certainty and uncertainty	56
Grammar 24	Meetings, promises, decisions, refusing	58
Grammar 25	<i>will</i> and <i>going to</i> : problems	60
Grammar 26	Present continuous: future use	62
Grammar 27	Future time words: more contrasts	64
Grammar 28	CONSOLIDATION 4	66
Grammar 29	Conditional 1	68
Grammar 30	Conditional 2	70
Grammar 31	Conditionals 1 and 2	72
Grammar 32	Short answers	76
Grammar 33	<i>Wh-</i> questions; Subject and object questions	78
Grammar 34	Tag questions	80
Grammar 35	CONSOLIDATION 5	82
Grammar 36	Modals of ability and possibility	84
Grammar 37	Modals of obligation	86
Grammar 38	Modals of negative obligation	88
Grammar 39	Modals: past	90
Grammar 40	Modals: possibility, uncertainty, impossibility, certainty	92
Grammar 41	Modals: problems and contrasts	94
Grammar 42	CONSOLIDATION 6	96
Grammar 43	Plural nouns	98
Grammar 44	Countable and uncountable nouns: <i>a, an, some, any</i>	100
Grammar 45	Countable and uncountable nouns: problems	102

Grammar 46	Countable and uncountable nouns: <i>much, many</i>	104
Grammar 47	Countable and uncountable nouns: <i>much, many, enough</i>	106
Grammar 48	Numbers: cardinal, ordinal, fractions and decimals	110
Grammar 49	CONSOLIDATION 7	112
Grammar 50	Advice, agreeing/disagreeing, apologizing	114
Grammar 51	Descriptions, directions, excuses, greetings	116
Grammar 52	Asking for information, invitations, offers, permission	118
Grammar 53	Preferences, promises, reminders, requesting, suggesting, warning	120
Grammar 54	Calendar	122
Grammar 55	Time	124
Grammar 56	CONSOLIDATION 8	126
Grammar 57	Prepositions of place and position	128
Grammar 58	Prepositions and adverbials of place and position	132
Grammar 59	Articles 1	136
Grammar 60	Articles 2	138
Grammar 61	Pronouns 1	140
Grammar 62	Pronouns 2	142
Grammar 63	CONSOLIDATION 9	144
Grammar 64	Reported speech; Past perfect	146
Grammar 65	Passive 1	148
Grammar 66	Passive 2: agent	150
Grammar 67	Imperatives	152
Grammar 68	Gerunds	154
Grammar 69	Contractions	156

Grammar 70	CONSOLIDATION 10	158
Grammar 71	Possession 1	160
Grammar 72	Possession 2: apostrophe, of	162
Grammar 73	Adjectives, nationalities	164
Grammar 74	Order of adjectives; Problem adjectives	166
Grammar 75	Making comparisons 1: comparative adjectives	168
Grammar 76	Making comparisons 2: superlative adjectives	172
Grammar 77	CONSOLIDATION 11	174
Grammar 78	Adverbs: formation and position, irregular adverbs	176
Grammar 79	Subjects	178
Grammar 80	Problem verbs	180
Grammar 81	Problem verbs: phrasal verbs	182
Grammar 82	Verbs with prepositions, gerund or infinitive	184
Grammar 83	Be with adjectives and prepositions	188
Grammar 84	CONSOLIDATION 12	190
Grammar 85	Punctuation	192
Grammar 86	Spelling: rules, problems	196
Grammar 87	Same pronunciation, different spelling	198
Grammar 88	British and American spelling	200
Grammar 89	Prefixes, suffixes, phrasal verbs, compound words	202
Grammar 90	CONSOLIDATION 13	206

Vocabulary 1	Personal details	210
Vocabulary 2	Family matters	212
Vocabulary 3	Free time	214
Vocabulary 4	Rooms	216
Vocabulary 5	Places	218
Vocabulary 6	Jobs	220
Vocabulary 7	Inside the house	222
Vocabulary 8	Food and drink	224
Vocabulary 9	Animals	226
Vocabulary 10	Clothes	228
Vocabulary 11	Weather	230
Vocabulary 12	The body	232
Vocabulary 13	Staying healthy	234
Vocabulary 14	The world around us	236
Vocabulary 15	Transport	238
Vocabulary 16	Useful things	240
Vocabulary 17	Other countries	242
Vocabulary 18	In the classroom	244
Vocabulary 19	Going out	246
Vocabulary 20	Shopping around	248
	Formation rules	250
	Irregular verbs	252
	Grammar index	254
	Grammar answers	257
	Vocabulary answers	283

Explanations

Statements

I am	he is	we are
I'm	he's	we're
you are	she is	they are
you're	she's	they're
	it is	
	it's	

Negatives

I am not	he is not	we are not
I'm not	he isn't	we aren't
you are not	she is not	they are not
you aren't	she isn't	they aren't
	it is not	
	it isn't	

Yes/No Questions

Am I...?	Is he...?	Is it...?	Are they...?
Are you...?	Is she...?	Are we...?	

Examples

- with ages
Carlos is fifteen. Anna is fourteen.
- with nationality words
I'm Spanish. She's Turkish.
- with jobs
Jim is a teacher. Are you a student?
- with an adjective
You're right. I'm happy. It's easy.
- with this/that
This is my bike. Is that your seat?
- in questions
Is Jim here? Are you fifteen? Are they American?
Is this your book? Is it difficult?

→ SEE ALSO

Grammar 69: Contractions

Practice

1 Put *am*, *is*, or *are* in each space.

- a) This ^{is} my family.
- b) These my parents.
- c) Lucy English.
- d) We in the garden.
- e) This her pen.
- f) Maria and Anna students.
- g) My dog happy.
- h) I happy.

2 Change the sentences into negative sentences.

- a) It's hot today. *It isn't hot today.*
- b) I'm at home.
- c) My friends are here.
- d) You're a teacher.
- e) We're at the cinema.
- f) This is difficult.
- g) Katy is happy.

3 Change the statements into questions.

- a) I'm late. *Am I late?*
- b) You're ill.
- c) We're right.
- d) He's fifteen.
- e) It's cold.
- f) The school is in this street.
- g) My books are in your bag.

4 Choose the most suitable answer to each question.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| a) What's your name? | 1 No, I'm Brazilian. |
| b) Are you Portuguese? | 2 I'm fifteen. |
| c) Are you at school? | 3 My name is Carlos. |
| d) How old are you? | 4 No, it's easy. |
| e) Is English difficult? | 5 Yes, I'm a student. |

Present simple: affirmative

Frequency adverbs

Explanations

We use the present simple to describe general facts, repeated actions and habits, things that are always true.

■ general facts

I like milk.

Maria plays basketball.

They speak Turkish.

We live in Australia.

■ repeated actions and habits

Harry often arrives late.

I usually get up at 7.30.

I walk to school every day. My brother usually walks with me.

■ things that are always true

The sun rises in the east.

The earth goes round the sun.

I walk	we walk
you walk	they walk

BUT he walks she walks it walks

go → goes

miss → misses

watch → watches

wash → washes

relax → relaxes

always	100%	Tim always wears jeans.
usually	80%	I usually go to bed at 9.30.
often	60%	Sue often goes to the cinema.
sometimes	40%	Sam sometimes walks to school.
never	0%	It never rains here in August.

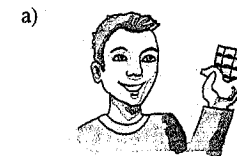
■ The frequency adverb goes between subject and verb.

Monday always comes after Sunday.

Practice

1 Look at the pictures. Complete each sentence with a verb from the box.

arrive like live rain start teach



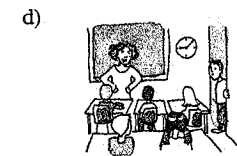
David likes chocolate.



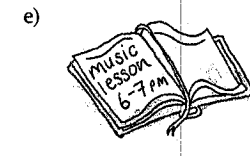
It starts here in November.



Liz lives with her family in Italy.



George often teaches late.



The lesson starts at 6.00.



Kate and Jim live English in Spain.

2 Underline the correct word in each sentence.

- Juan and Carmen live/lives in Madrid.
- Harry watch/watches television every evening.
- I usually go/goes to school by bus.
- It never snow/snows in this city.
- Sam live/lives in that house.
- You never clean/cleans your teeth!
- Carol get/gets up early every day.
- All the buses leave/leaves from this bus-stop.

3 Complete each sentence. Use the verb and frequency adverb in brackets.

- Tina (sometimes, miss) sometimes misses the bus to school.
- I (never, get up) never get up before 6.00.
- We (usually, have) usually have a holiday in August.
- Jim and Helen (often, go) often go to the theatre.
- I (often, sing) often sing in the shower.
- Pat (sometimes, play) sometimes plays football on Sunday.
- You (never, finish) never finish your homework!
- Our teacher (always, wear) always wears a tie.

Present simple: negative and questions

Explanations

negatives

I **don't** like ice-cream.She **doesn't** eat chocolate.I **do not** walk.He **does not** walk.We **do not** walk.I **don't** walk.He **doesn't** walk.We **don't** walk.You **do not** walk.She **does not** walk.They **do not** walk.You **don't** walk.She **doesn't** walk.They **don't** walk.It **does not** walk.It **doesn't** walk.

examples

I **don't** drink coffee.They **don't** speak Italian.Tom **doesn't** play tennis.We **don't** live in France.

questions

Do you walk to school or do you take the bus?

I usually walk.

Do I walk?

Does he walk?

Do we walk?

Do you walk?

Does she walk?

Do they walk?

Does it walk?

examples

Do you like ice-cream?

Do they speak Italian?

Does Ana play basketball?

Do you live in Australia?

Does Harry often arrive late?

Do you usually get up at 7.30?

careful!

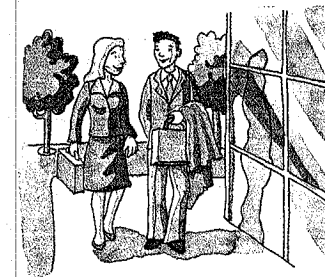
I walk, you walk, we walk BUT he walks, she walks, it walksHe walks.Does he walk?I don't walk.BUT He doesn't walk. She doesn't walk.

Practice

- Complete each sentence. Put the words in brackets into the correct order.
 - Our (smoke, not, teachers, do) teachers do not smoke at school.
 - Where (Helen, live, does) ?
 - (do, not, go, we) to the cinema on Friday.
 - (David, does, ride) a bike?
 - (play, do, you) football after school?
 - Kate (like, does, not) oranges.
 - I (lunch, usually, have) at 1.30.
- Complete each sentence. Use the words in brackets.
 - Mary (like, not) does not like baseball.
 - (wash, Peter) his face every morning?
 - (watch, you) television every day?
 - I (eat, not, often) fruit.
 - (have, we) homework today?
 - My friends (live, not) near my house.
- Look at the pictures. Write a question or a negative sentence.



Jack



Alice and Mike

- Jack - get up at 7.00 Does Jack get up at 7.00 ?
- Alice and Mike - walk to work
- Jack - leave home at 8.00
- Alice and Mike - relax in the evening
- Alice and Mike - not/like tennis Alice and Mike don't like tennis.
- Jack - not/wear school uniform
- Alice and Mike - not/use computers
- Jack - not/do his homework

Present continuous: affirmative

Explanations

We use the present continuous to talk about actions happening at the moment.

I am sitting in my car. She's watching television.

<i>I am waiting.</i>	<i>He is waiting.</i>	<i>We are waiting.</i>
<i>I'm waiting.</i>	<i>He's waiting.</i>	<i>We're waiting.</i>
<i>You are waiting.</i>	<i>She is waiting.</i>	<i>They are waiting.</i>
<i>You're waiting.</i>	<i>She's waiting.</i>	<i>They're waiting.</i>
	<i>It is waiting.</i>	
	<i>It's waiting.</i>	

I'm studying English.

My brother's talking on the telephone now.

We're swimming in the sea.

Sue's reading a book at the moment.

Verbs with two vowels and ending in one consonant, add -ing.

wait → *waiting*

Verbs ending in e, drop e and add -ing.

make → *making*

decide → *deciding*

write → *writing*

Verbs ending with one vowel and one consonant, double the consonant.

sit → *sitting*

swim → *swimming*

cut → *cutting*

Verbs ending ie, change ie to y.

lie → *lying*

tie → *tying*

die → *dying*

Verbs ending in a vowel and y, add -ing.

stay → *staying*

play → *playing*

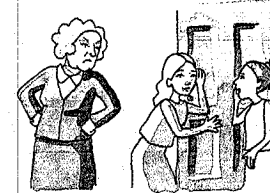
say → *saying*

Practice

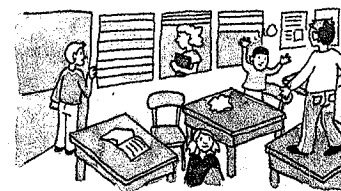
1 Look at the pictures and write sentences.



a) I/eat *I'm eating.*



b) They/listen



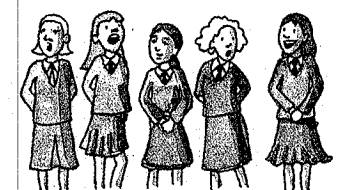
c) She/come



d) You/move



e) It/rain



f) We/sing

2 Complete this letter. Put the verbs in brackets into the present continuous.

Dear Jim,

We (1) (have) *are having* a terrible holiday.

It (2) (rain) I (3) (sit) in the

hotel. I (4) (watch) television. Tom and Peter

(5) (play) computer games.

Alice (6) (read) a book. Susan (7) (make)

a cup of coffee. The baby (8) (cry) I want to go home.

All the best,

George

Present continuous: negative and questions

Explanations

I'm not walking to school today.

<i>I am not waiting.</i>	<i>He is not waiting.</i>	<i>We are not waiting.</i>
<i>I'm not waiting.</i>	<i>He isn't waiting.</i>	<i>We aren't waiting.</i>
	<i>(He's not...)</i>	<i>(We're not...)</i>
<i>You are not waiting.</i>		
<i>You aren't waiting.</i>	<i>She is not waiting.</i>	<i>They are not waiting.</i>
<i>(You're not...)</i>	<i>She isn't waiting.</i>	<i>They aren't waiting.</i>
	<i>(She's not...)</i>	<i>(They're not...)</i>
	<i>It isn't waiting.</i>	
	<i>It is not waiting.</i>	
	<i>(It's not waiting.)</i>	

I'm not drinking milk, I'm drinking cola.

They aren't playing football. They're playing rugby.

Are you walking to school today?

<i>Am I waiting?</i>	<i>Is he waiting?</i>	<i>Are we waiting?</i>
<i>Are you waiting?</i>	<i>Is she waiting?</i>	<i>Are they waiting?</i>
	<i>Is it waiting?</i>	

What are you doing?

Are you reading?

I'm fixing my bike.

No, I'm not reading.

With I, you, he, she, it, they and we, it is better to use the contractions in statements and negatives.

Practice

1 Change the statements into questions.

- a) I'm making a lot of noise.
- b) Clare is reading.
- c) You are watching the news.
- d) It is snowing.
- e) We are waiting in the right place.
- f) You are sitting here.
- g) David is enjoying the film.
- h) The bus is stopping.

Am I making a lot of noise?

2 Change the statements into negative sentences.

- a) You're listening to me.
- b) Tim is studying.
- c) We're talking.
- d) You are writing.
- e) Katherine is lying.
- f) They are waiting for us.
- g) Anna's having a good time.
- h) I'm reading at the moment.

You aren't listening to me.

3 Correct each sentence or question.

- a) I playing tennis with my best friend.
I'm playing tennis with my best friend.
- b) You're coming to the cinema tonight?
- c) John and Mandy don't going to the beach.
- d) Is Emma and Katy flying to America?
- e) My sister is walk on the beach now.
- f) We not studying French at school this year.
- g) What's that noise? The dog is outside?
- h) I aren't watching the TV. Turn it off.
- i) Fred are eating a sandwich for his lunch.
- j) Are waiting they for a bus?

Present continuous and present simple

Explanations

Present continuous To talk about things happening at the moment, use the present continuous.

Jim is watching television at the moment.

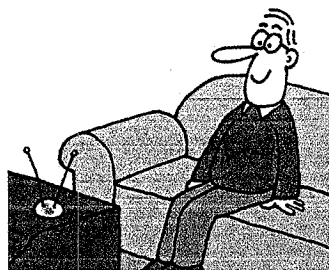
Present simple To talk about habits and routines use the present simple.

- Things we do often, every day, every week, etc.
- Things that always happen.

I arrive at school at 8.30.

The first lesson starts at 8.45.

The lesson finishes at 9.30.



Jim is watching TV.

Be careful! *Joe lives in New York. New York is his home. He lives there all the time.*

We are living near the station at the moment. We want to move to another house soon.

- Verbs usually used with the present simple:

cost	<i>This bike costs £200.</i>
like	<i>Anna likes rap music.</i>
know	<i>Do you know the answer?</i>
understand	<i>I don't understand this.</i>
believe	<i>Do you believe me?</i>

- Some verbs have one meaning in the simple form, but a different meaning in the continuous form.

<i>Do you have a bike?</i> = Do you own a bike?	(in general)
<i>I'm having a great time!</i> = It's a great party!	(at the moment)
<i>I think this film is great!</i> = I like this film a lot.	(in general)
<i>Quiet! I'm thinking.</i> = I'm doing a difficult exercise.	(at the moment)

Practice

1 Choose the most suitable sentence or question.

- a) 1 I wash my hair.
2 I'm washing my hair. ✓
- b) 1 Do you know the answer?
2 Are you knowing the answer?
- c) 1 Do you wait for the school bus? You're in the wrong place!
2 Are you waiting for the school bus? You're in the wrong place!
- d) 1 That bike costs £350.
2 That bike is costing £350.
- e) 1 Do you understand?
2 Are you understanding?
- f) 1 I do my homework.
2 I'm doing my homework.

2 Complete each sentence. Use the words in brackets. Use present simple or present continuous.

- a) Richard (always, get up) *always gets up* before 7.00.
- b) Hurry up! The bus (wait) for us!
- c) Where (we, go) ? This is the wrong road!
- d) My friends (not believe) my story.
- e) Please be quiet! I (read) a very interesting book.
- f) (like, Susan) horror films?

3 Choose the most suitable word or phrase for each space.

- a) 'Someone B for you outside.' 'Who is it?'
A) waits B) is waiting C) waiting
- b) 'What of this book?' 'I think it's fantastic!'
A) do you think B) is you think C) you do think
- c) in ghosts?
A) Are you believe B) Are you believing C) Do you believe
- d) Kate is busy. She for a test.
A) is study B) is studying C) is studies
- e) a great time at the moment!
A) We are have B) We're have C) We're having
- f) Tina usually at 7.00.
A) get up B) is getting up C) gets up

1 Correct each sentence or question.

- a) I doesn't likes this film. don't like
- b) What do you wants?
- c) Jim walk sometimes to school.
- d) When the lesson begins?
- e) I don't gets up early on Saturdays.
- f) Tina not like computer games.
- g) Figen watchs television every night.

2 Put one word in each space. Contractions are one word.

- a) Whatdo..... you usually eat for lunch?
- b) George and Terry speak Portuguese. They speak English.
- c) It's 9.30 and the children sitting at their desks.
- d) Ken like tea. In fact, he hates it.
- e) When it rains, you take an umbrella?
- f) What it say on the board? I can't see from here.

3 Choose the most suitable word or phrase for each space.

- a) What time ...C... to bed?
A) usually do you go B) do usually you go C) do you usually go
- b) Every day, Frank to work.
A) goes B) is going C) go
- c) Stop it! it!
A) I'm not liking B) I don't like C) I not like
- d) What ? Is it an orange?
A) you are eating B) are you eating C) do you eat
- e) Yumiko feels ill, so she basketball.
A) doesn't play B) isn't play C) isn't playing
- f) Pay attention, Philip! ?
A) Do you listen B) Is it listening C) Are you listening
- g) Excuse me. to Manchester?
A) This road goes B) Does this road go C) Is this road go

4 Change each sentence. Use the words in brackets.

- a) Jo goes to school by bus. (usually)Jo usually goes to school by bus.
- b) I'm working hard. (not)
- c) Sara likes sport. (not)
- d) I get up at 6.30. (always)
- e) We speak German. (not)
- f) Pierre goes to the beach. (often)
- g) George drinks beer. (never)
- h) We're having a good time. (not)

5 Present simple or present continuous? Change the verb if it is wrong.

- a) Are you having a motorbike?
.....Do you have a motorbike?
- b) I'm staying in a hotel near the sea.
.....
- c) I'd like to buy this coat. How much is it costing?
.....
- d) What you doing?
.....
- e) I'm usually getting up at 6.00.
.....
- f) This book is difficult. I'm not understanding it.
.....
- g) I watch a lot of TV every night.
.....
- h) Excuse me. Are you knowing the way to the museum?
.....

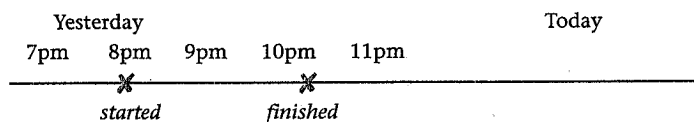
Think about grammar! Are the sentences true or false?

- a) When you talk about a habit or a routine, you use the present simple.
- b) The present continuous is for actions that do not finish.
- c) When the subject of the sentence is *he, she or it*, add *-s* or *-es*.



Explanations

- We use the past simple to describe finished events in the past.



Yesterday I **watched** a great film on TV.
It **started** at 8pm and **finished** at 10.15pm.

- Regular verbs watch + ed start + ed

John **played** football last week.

My grandparents **moved** to Scotland last year.

I started	he started	we started
you started	she started	they started
	it started	

The bus **arrived** at 9.30.

In 1998 I **decided** to move to Australia.

Kate **stayed** in Turkey last summer.

Yesterday I **walked** to school.

fit	→	fitted
stop	→	stopped
cry	→	cried
try	→	tried

Two syllable verbs with the stress on the first syllable do NOT double the final consonant.

<u>admit</u>	→	<u>admitted</u>
<u>answer</u>	→	<u>answered</u>

answer	listen	start
arrive	live	stop
decide	marry	turn
like	open	watch

Make your own list of regular verbs.

Practice

1 Change the verbs in brackets into the past simple.

My day yesterday

- a) My mother (call) *called* me at 7.00.
b) I (wash) and (dress) very quickly.
c) I (walk) to school.
d) After school I (watch) television.
e) Then I (play) basketball with my friends.
f) At 8.30 we (finish) the game.
g) Before bedtime I (telephone) my friend.

2 Complete the paragraph in the past simple. Use verbs from the box.

arrive continue finish listen play start talk work

My first day at school

I remember my first day at school in 1995! I (1) *arrived* at 8.30 and
(2) lessons at 9.00. We (3) from 9.00 to 12.00. The
teachers (4) to us a lot! Then we (5) football for an hour.
In the afternoon we (6) the lessons and (7) to the teacher
carefully. Then at 3.30 the lessons (8) It was a long and tiring day!

3 Change the sentences into past simple sentences.

- a) Tom looks out of the window.
 Tom looked out of the window.
b) We arrive at 6.30.

c) Laura watches television all afternoon.

d) The bus stops at the end of the street.

e) I visit an old castle this week.

f) Sue waits for her friends for more than an hour.

g) They decide to come to my party.

Past simple: regular negative and questions

Explanations

gatives

I didn't start learning English last year. I started this year.

<i>I did not start</i>	<i>he did not start</i>	<i>we did not start</i>
<i>I didn't start</i>	<i>he didn't start</i>	<i>we didn't start</i>
<i>you did not start</i>	<i>she did not start</i>	<i>they did not start</i>
<i>you didn't start</i>	<i>she didn't start</i>	<i>they didn't start</i>
	<i>it did not start</i>	
	<i>it didn't start</i>	

/No Questions

Did you start learning English last year?

<i>Did I start?</i>	<i>Did he start?</i>	<i>Did we start?</i>
<i>Did you start?</i>	<i>Did she start?</i>	<i>Did they start?</i>
	<i>Did it start?</i>	

- questions

When did you start learning English?

When did you finish your homework?

mples

Did they arrive yesterday? No, they didn't arrive yesterday.

They arrived on Monday.

Did you finish your homework? No, I didn't finish my homework.

It was very difficult.

When did you start school? I started school in 1993.

refull

The order of the words is different in questions and statements.

Practice

1 Change the sentences into negative sentences.

- a) Our bus arrived on time.
Our bus didn't arrive on time.
- b) Sue phoned last night.
- c) Maria finished work early yesterday.
- d) The train stopped at Harry's station.
- e) I wanted to go to bed early.
- f) Carlos answered my letter.
- g) John invited lots of people to his party.
- h) The shops opened on Sunday.
- i) Peter liked his new shoes.

2 Change the statements into questions.

- a) Tim arrived at 2.00.
Did Tim arrive at 2.00?
- b) Sam phoned home.
- c) Helen wanted to make a phone call.
- d) Paul visited the doctor.
- e) Bill missed the bus.
- f) George walked to school.
- g) Jim opened the window.
- h) Emma helped the teacher.
- i) Alice washed her hair.

Explanations

Irregular verbs do not have -ed endings for the past simple. Each verb has its own form and we have to learn these forms.

go	→	went	eat	→	ate
come	→	came	do	→	did
have	→	had	get	→	got
take	→	took	bring	→	brought

Last week we **went** to the cinema.

Pedro **ate** 10 cakes yesterday.

go	eat
I went	I ate
you went	you ate
he went	he ate
she went	she ate
it went	it ate
we went	we ate
they went	they ate

Yesterday I **drank** Japanese beer.

Harry always **came** late.

We **made** dinner last night.

Complete the list. Use the words from the box.

sent got did knew began flew brought took went had
came told gave stood met made found wore drank ran

Verb	Past simple	Verb	Past simple
begin	<u>began</u>	have	.....
bring	know	.....
come	make	.....
do	meet	.....
drink	run	.....
find	send	.....
fly	stand	.....
get	take	.....
give	tell	.....
go	wear	.....

Now check your answers. Look at the list of irregular verbs on page 252.

Practice

1 Change the verbs in brackets into the past simple.

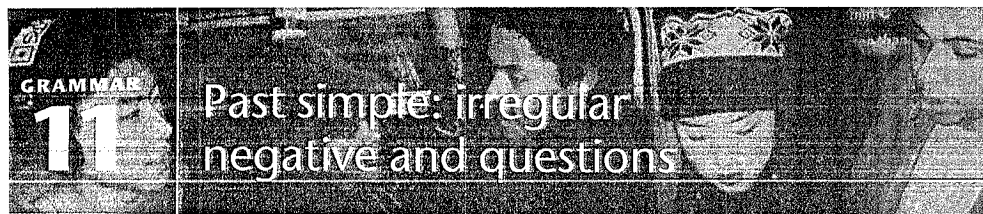
- The last lesson (begin) began at 2.30.
- Joe (feel) ill after lunch.
- Suddenly a bird (fly) in the window!
- I think you (do) the wrong thing.
- Jane (get) ready very quickly.
- We (know) the answer.
- The students (stand) up when the teacher arrived.
- It was cold, but I (wear) two pullovers.
- Anna (eat) two plates of spaghetti.
- Rick (tell) us the time.

2 Choose the correct words to complete this article about Sally Green.

A day in the life of Sally Green

Yesterday was a normal day for Sally Green, the writer. She (1) C up at 6.00. She (2) to the bathroom, and then she (3) her clothes. After that she (4) breakfast and (5) the newspaper. Then she (6) her bed. From 7.00 to 10.00 she (7) in the living-room and (8) television. Then she (9) shopping. At 1.00 she (10) home and (11) her lunch. After lunch she (12) work. She (13) from 2.00 to 9.00. She (14) a lot of tea. Then she (15) her friends at a nightclub.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| 1) A get | B gets | C got |
| 2) A went | B goed | C goes |
| 3) A put on | B putted on | C puts on |
| 4) A eat | B have | C ate |
| 5) A read | B saw | C readed |
| 6) A made | B make | C making |
| 7) A sat | B sit | C was |
| 8) A watches | B watched | C wached |
| 9) A does | B went | C did |
| 10) A comed | B come | C came |
| 11) A has | B had | C have |
| 12) A begin | B began | C began |
| 13) A writes | B write | C wrote |
| 14) A drinks | B drunk | C drank |
| 15) A meets | B met | C meet |



Explanations

gatives

go → went
eat → ate

We **didn't** go to school last week.

Katy **didn't** eat an ice-cream yesterday.

I did not go	he did not go	we did not go
I didn't go	he didn't go	we didn't go
you did not go	she did not go	they did not go
you didn't go	she didn't go	they didn't go
	it did not go	
	it didn't go	

mples

They **didn't** give Jack a present.

I **didn't** have breakfast.

estions

Did you go to the cinema last night?

Did I go?	Did he go?	Did we go?
Did you go?	Did she go?	Did they go?
	Did it go?	

mples

Did you **send** me a letter last week?

Where **did** you go yesterday?

What **did** you do?

efull

When **did** is in a question, the main verb is not in the past.

Practice

1 Read the answers. Write a question for each answer.

- a) *Did Nick fly to the USA?* Yes, Nick flew to the USA.
b) Yes, Ana went to Italy.
c) Yes, Jack found the money.
d) Yes, Helen knew the answer.
e) Yes, Alex gave Sue a present.
f) Yes, Pat brought the flowers.
g) Yes, Kate sent Mike a letter.
h) Yes, Alan made the cake.
i) Yes, Tina wore a hat.
j) Yes, Rick felt ill.

2 Change the statements into negative sentences.

- a) Tom and Anna had breakfast. *Tom and Anna didn't have breakfast.*
b) Mike took the bus.
c) Maria and Carlos did the homework.
d) Catherine got a prize.
e) Peter knew the teacher.
f) Sam went to university.
g) Paula ate a sandwich.
h) Murat and Soraya ran fast.
i) Joe made mistakes.
j) Carla came early.

3 Change the verbs in brackets into the past simple.

- a) When (you, come) *did you come* to this country?
b) Jack (not, wear) his raincoat.
c) Pat (leave) his coat in the hall.
d) How many pages (you, write) ?
e) What (the teacher, say) ?
f) (you, not, tell) us your name.
g) (you, go) to the basketball match yesterday?
h) Ann (not, know) the other girl's name.
i) Which books (you, take) to school?
j) (Jane, not, get) any letters.

Explanations

At 8.00 last night I was at home.

I was	he was	we were
you were	she was	they were
	it was	

Dave and Sue were at the cinema last night.

It was very cold yesterday.

I was ill last week.

I wasn't here yesterday.

I was not	he was not	we were not
I wasn't	he wasn't	we weren't
you were not	she was not	they were not
you weren't	she wasn't	they weren't
	it was not	
	it wasn't	

Kate wasn't happy at work last year.

We weren't at home last night.

I was late yesterday.

Was it cold yesterday?

Was I?	Was he?	Were we?
Were you?	Was she?	Were they?
	Was it?	

Were you at home at 6.00 last night?

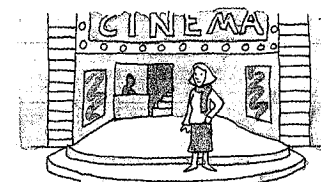
Was Harry in London yesterday?

Were you at school on Tuesday?

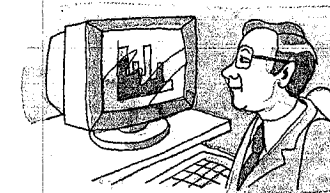
When the main verb is be, do not use did.

Practice

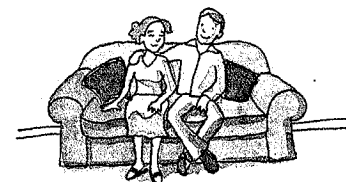
1 Look at the pictures and complete the questions and answers.



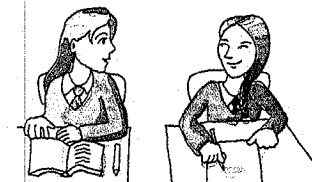
at the cinema



at work



at home



at school

- a) Was Helen at home yesterday?
Helen wasn't at home She was at the cinema
- b) at school yesterday?
Yannis and Emma
They
- c) at home yesterday?
Nick He
- d) at the cinema yesterday?
Liz and Jane
They

2 Use the prompts to make questions and negative sentences.

- a) Jim/at home/last night Was Jim at home last night ?
- b) you/at school/on Monday ?
- c) the cinema/open/on Sunday ?
- d) all your friends/at your party ?
- e) Kevin and Mel/at my party Kevin and Mel weren't at my party ?
- f) Nick/in class yesterday ?
- g) It/warm yesterday ?
- h) We/at the match yesterday ?

Past continuous: affirmative, negative and questions

Explanations

We use the past continuous to describe a continuing situation in the past. We often interrupt a continuing situation with a sudden event.

6.30pm 7pm 7.30pm 8pm 8.30pm

having a bath ✕ phone rang

Now

Nadia phoned me at 7.30. I **was having** a bath.

Last month I **was working** in Brazil.

I was sitting.	He was sitting.	We were sitting.
You were sitting.	She was sitting.	They were sitting.
	It was sitting.	

The teacher **was talking**, but Harry **wasn't listening**.

was not = wasn't were not = weren't

I wasn't sitting.	He wasn't sitting.	We weren't sitting.
You weren't sitting.	She wasn't sitting.	They weren't sitting.
	It wasn't sitting.	

Were they working in the office?

Was I sitting?	Was he sitting?	Were we sitting?
Were you sitting?	Was she sitting?	Were they sitting?
	Was it sitting?	

What **were you doing** at 6.00? Who **was he talking** to?

Steve **was eating** in the restaurant when the fire started.

Carmen **wasn't teaching** in 1990, she **was studying**.

Were you **eating** dinner when I phoned?

Practice

- 1 Look at the picture of a classroom at 2.00 yesterday. Complete each sentence about it using a verb from the box.



play football read a book listen to music write on the board
draw pictures look out of the window

- a) Anna **was reading a book**
b) Paula and Jim
c) Tim
d) Kate and Bill
e) Sam
f) Ed and Lisa

- 2 Correct each sentence.

- a) Anna was drawing pictures. **Anna wasn't drawing pictures.**
b) Paula and Jim were looking out of the window.
c) Tim was reading a book.
d) Kate and Bill were writing on the board.
e) Sam was playing football.
f) Ed and Lisa were listening to music.

- 3 Use the prompts to make questions.

- a) Tim/draw pictures **Was Tim drawing pictures?**
b) Kate and Bill/look out of the window
c) Ed and Lisa/read a book
d) Paula and Jim/write on the board
e) Anna/play football
f) Sam/listen to music

1 Change the verbs in brackets into the past simple.

- a) Tom (look) *looked* out of the window.
 b) We (take) the bus from the airport to the city centre.
 c) Laura (read) the book all afternoon.
 d) Kate (close) all the windows and doors.
 e) An old friend (come) to see me yesterday.
 f) I (see) an interesting film last week.

2 Choose the most suitable answer (1–7) for each question (a–g).

- a) What were you doing when you saw the accident?⁴
 b) Did you go to Italy last summer?
 c) What did you do last weekend?
 d) What did you do when you saw the two men?
 e) Did you go to school yesterday?
 f) Did you have a good time at the party?
 g) When did you find the money?
 1 Yes, I really enjoyed myself.
 2 I called the police.
 3 Yes, I spent three weeks there.
 4 I was standing at the bus-stop.
 5 While I was cleaning the floor.
 6 I met my friends, and spent time with my family.
 7 No, I was ill. I stayed at home.

3 Rewrite each sentence using a negative form of a verb from the box. Do not change the meaning.

close forget get up like ~~miss~~ sit down go out win

- a) David caught the train. *David didn't miss the train.*
 b) Cristina remembered her book.
 c) They stayed at home.
 d) John opened the door.
 e) Terry stayed in bed.
 f) Karen hated Chinese food.
 g) Chris's team lost the match.
 h) I stood up on the bus all the way home.

4 Correct each sentence or question.

- a) Where did you went last night? *Where did you go last night?*
 b) I didn't knew the answer.
 c) Harry maked a lot of noise.
 d) I didn't liked my new teacher.
 e) Took you your medicine?
 f) Helen comed home late last night.
 g) I didn't got up early this morning.
 h) What did you saw at the cinema?

5 Read the answers. Write a question for each answer.

- a) Were *you working last night?*
 Last night? No, I wasn't working last night.
 b) Was
 Yes, that's right. Tim was waiting at the bus-stop.
 c) Was
 No, Mary wasn't talking.
 d) Was
 Yes, that's right. Kate was wearing jeans.
 e) Were
 Yes, Ali and Mehmet were playing football.
 f) Was
 Raining? Yes, it was.

6 Change the verbs in brackets into the past continuous.

- a) (you, play) *Were you playing* tennis with Paolo yesterday?
 b) (Mary, have) lunch at 1 o'clock.
 c) (we, watch) basketball all day.
 d) Who (you, dance) with at the party last night?
 e) (Some of the boys, look) out of the window.
 f) (I, walk) home in the rain.

Think about grammar! Are the sentences true or false?

- a) When actions in the past are completed, use the past simple.
 b) When actions in the past are not completed, use the past continuous.
 c) *Did* is for negative sentences only.

Past continuous and past simple

Explanations

We often contrast a continuing situation with a sudden event.

Statements

I was writing a letter when Paul phoned.

(continuing situation)

(sudden event)

6.20pm

7pm

7.30pm

8pm

8.30pm

writing a letter

telephone rang

Now

I started the letter at 7.00.

Paul phoned at 8.00.

I was writing a letter when Paul phoned.

While I was writing a letter, Paul phoned.

While I was waiting for the bus, I saw the accident.

(continuing situation)

(sudden event)

10am

11am

waiting

saw accident

I started waiting for the bus at 10.00.

I saw the accident at 10.30.

I saw the accident when I was waiting for the bus.

I saw the accident while I was waiting for the bus.

I was waiting for the bus when I saw the accident.

When I saw the accident, I was waiting for the bus.

Questions

What were you doing when I phoned?

I was writing a letter when you phoned.

When did you see the accident?

I saw the accident while I was waiting for the bus.

- You can use **when** with both past simple and continuous, but **while** is only used with the continuous.

Practice

1 Underline the correct verb form in each sentence.

- While I was doing / did my homework, I had a good idea.
- Jim was breaking / broke his leg when he was playing golf.
- When I arrived, I was going / went into the kitchen.
- We were finding / found an old box while we were digging in the garden.
- I was seeing / saw an old friend while I was waiting for the train.
- While I had / was having a bath, the phone rang.

2 Complete each sentence. Use the verbs in brackets. Use past simple or past continuous.

- Chris (eat) ate spaghetti every day last week.
- When I (come) into the room, two boys (play) football.
- Peter (turn on) the TV, but nothing (happen)
- While we (run) in the park, Mary (fall over)
- While I (listen) to music, I (hear) the doorbell.
- I (break) my pen while I (do) my homework.

3 Read the paragraph. Choose the most suitable word for each space.

Last week my friend Sandy and I (1) A to go to the beach on the bus. While we (2) for the bus, it suddenly (3) to rain. We (4) summer clothes, and we (5) an umbrella. While we (6) there in the rain, Sandy's mother (7) past, so we (8) to her. Luckily, she (9) us, and (10) us home in the car.

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1) A decided | B was deciding | C were deciding |
| 2) A were waiting | B waiting | C was waiting |
| 3) A start | B was starting | C started |
| 4) A was wearing | B wore | C were wearing |
| 5) A weren't having | B had | C didn't have |
| 6) A stood | B were standing | C standed |
| 7) A drove | B driving | C drove |
| 8) A were waving | B waved | C was waving |
| 9) A noticing | B noticed | C didn't notice |
| 10) A took | B take | C took |

Explanations

We use *used to* when we describe a state or habit in the past.

Statements

I used to play tennis.

I used to play he used to play we used to play, etc.

Negatives

Sheila didn't use to play basketball.

I didn't use to play she didn't use to play we didn't use to play, etc.

Questions

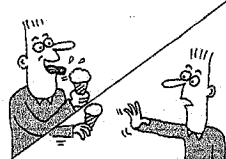

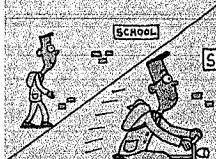
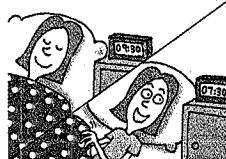
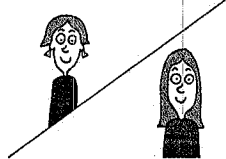
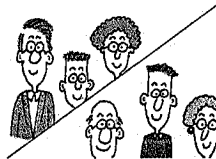
Did they use to play football?

Did he use to play? Did you use to play? Did they use to play? etc.

- We often use *used to* to contrast a past habit with what we do now.
I used to have a motorbike when I was younger. (past state)
I used to drink coffee, but now I drink tea. (past habit)
- There is no present form of *used to*.
I used to work in London, but now I work in Manchester.
- The past simple is also possible in these examples, but *used to* is more common.
I had a motorbike when I was younger.
I played tennis, but now I play football.

Practice

1 Look at the pictures and complete the sentences.

<p>The past</p>  <p>Now</p> <p>a) David</p>	<p>The past</p>  <p>Now</p> <p>b) Anna</p>	<p>The past</p>  <p>Now</p> <p>c) Nick</p>
<p>The past</p>  <p>Now</p> <p>d) Kate</p>	<p>The past</p>  <p>Now</p> <p>e) Carol</p>	<p>The past</p>  <p>Now</p> <p>f) Jack</p>

- a) like ice-cream/hate it ... *David used to like ice-cream, but now he hates it.*
- b) live in the country/in the city
- c) walk to school/ride a bike
- d) get up late/early
- e) have short hair/long hair
- f) be short/tall

2 Look at the table below. Write sentences about the past. Use *used to* and *didn't use to*.

	200 years ago
ride horses	✓
drive cars	x
read books	✓
go to the cinema	x
wash their clothes by hand	✓
watch TV	x
look after animals	✓
use computers	x

Two hundred years ago ...

- a) people (ride) *used to ride* horses.
- b) they (drive) cars.
- c) they (read) books.
- d) they (go to) the cinema.
- e) they (wash) their clothes by hand.
- f) they (watch) TV.
- g) they (look after) animals.
- h) they (use) computers.

3 Make statements, negatives or questions with *used to*.

- a) Susan/have/a dog? (question)
Did Susan use to have a dog?
- b) people/use/mobile phones (negative)
- c) he/go/swimming (statement)
- d) they/like/jazz music? (question)
- e) Ewa's family/live/in Moscow (statement)
- f) we/drink/coffee (negative)
- g) my sister/watch/television (negative)
- h) Tony/work/in a bank? (question)

4 Rewrite each sentence or question with *used to*. Do not change the meaning.

- a) I was in the school tennis team.
I used to be in the school tennis team.
- b) Sophie had long hair when she was at school.
- c) Mary didn't listen when her teachers were speaking.
- d) Ricardo got up at 6.00 when he was training for the Olympics.
- e) What did you usually do on Saturday evenings?
- f) Becky was afraid of dogs when she was a girl.
- g) We always gave our teachers presents at the end of term.
- h) Did you live next door to Mrs Harrison?
- i) My brother wore glasses when he was small.
- j) Did Marcin learn German at school?

5 Complete the sentences with your personal details.

- a) I used to eat , but now I don't.
- b) I used to hate , but now I love it.
- c) I didn't use to drink , but now I do.
- d) I used to read , but now I don't.
- e) I didn't use to watch , on television, but now I do.
- f) I used to get up at , on Saturdays, but now I don't.
- g) I used to play , but now I play .
- h) I didn't use to have , for breakfast, but now I do.

6 What did your grandparents and parents use to do?

My grandfather used to live in , but my dad