



**PAST SIMPLE ,
PAST CONTINUOUS**

What's the difference?

Past Simple

1. Completed actions at a specific time in the past;
2. Completed situations and states in the past;
3. Repeated actions in the past;
4. The main events and situations in the story.

Examples:

1. I **bought** three CDs yesterday.
2. I **had** green hair for a while as a teenager.
3. We **played** football every Saturday.
4. I **ran** out of the house, **crossed** the road and **jumped** on the bus.

How to form?

Regular Verbs

- 1. Affirmative sentences: V + ed (He visited his cousin two days ago.)
- Interrogative sentences: Did he visit his cousin two days ago?
- Negative sentences: He didn't visit his cousin two days ago.

Irregular verbs

- 1. Affirmative sentences V2 (They went to London last year.)
- Interrogative sentences: Did they go to London last year?
- Negative sentences: They didn't go to London last year.

The only exception:

The verb "to be":

1. She **was** seven last week. They **were** happy yesterday.
2. **Was** she seven last week? **Were** they happy yesterday?
3. She **wasn't** seven last week. They **weren't** happy yesterday.

Emphatic past simple

1. We use it to emphasise an action or situation in the past, particularly to emphasise that it actually happened, or that it's different to what someone else thinks.
2. Emphatic past simple = **subject + did + bare infinitive**.
3. I know you don't believe me but **I did see** a ghost.



BUT:

**We cannot use Emphatic
Past Simple with the verb
“To be”!!!**

Past Continuous is used for:

- 1. Actions or situations in the past which are interrupted or stopped by another action or situation;**
- 2. Actions which were happening at a definite time in the past;**
- 3. Two unfinished situations or events in progress at the same time.**

Examples:

1. She was reading a book at 6 o'clock yesterday.
2. I was doing my homework when my phone rang.
3. They were reading a book while their father was repairing his car.

How to form?

1. Affirmative sentences: I (she, he, it) **was eating**.
They (we, you) **were eating**.
2. Interrogative sentences: **Was** I (she, he, it) **eating**?
Were they (we, you) **eating**?
3. Negative sentences: I (she, he, it) **was not eating**.
They (we, you) **were not eating**.

BE CAREFUL!!!

Do not use Past Continuous for repeated or regular actions in the past. We do not say:

~~**I was playing football every Saturday.**~~

Say: I played football every Saturday.

Thank you for your
attention!!!

